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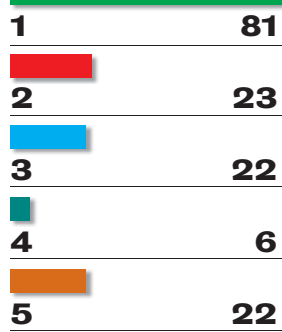
MONDAY MAY 30, 2011

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POLL RESULTS

On a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 being the highest, what's your level of confidence in the Board of Regents' choice of Dr. Christa Adams as the next NMC president?



Sunday, May 29, 2011

INSIDE



Less Money

There's less money this summer for vacations. It's all going into the gas tank.

BUSINESS...Page 13



How it Happened

An excruciating manhunt for Ratko Mladic ended quietly as the sun rose over Serbian fields.

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Hangover Again

Bradley Cooper's participation in the first "Hangover" rocketed him to stardom.

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CNMI awarded \$1.4M for housing assistance programs. PAGE 5
USS Cowpens' sailors help clean up CK cemetery. PAGE 6

Navy, Air Force join search for missing girls

» **Mother of missing girls trying to keep strong**
» **Islandwide search on Saturday**
» **Search focused on As Teo jungles, caves on Sunday**

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

A helicopter from the U.S. Navy and a C-130 plane from the U.S. Air Force joined the search yesterday for sisters Faloma and Maleina Luhk, more than a hundred hours after the two went missing and expanding the search to include the entire island of Saipan.

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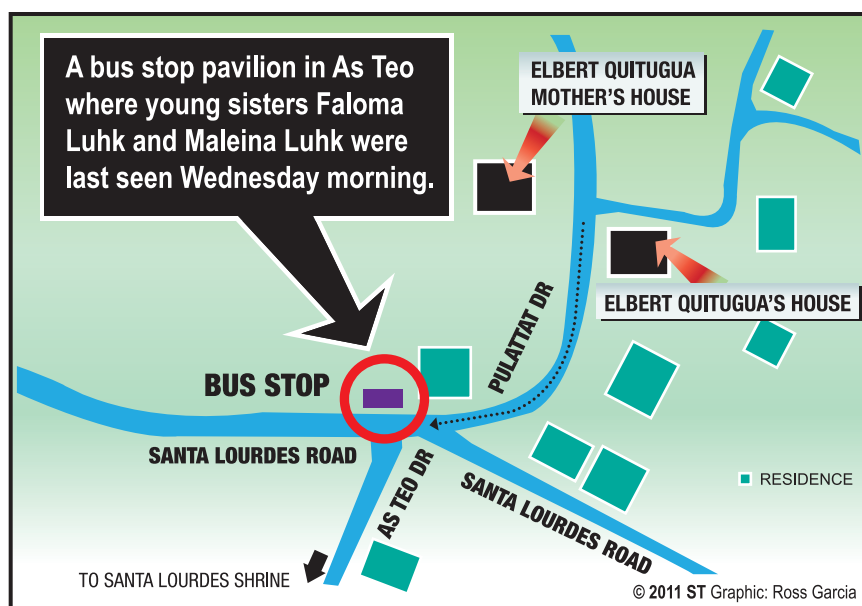


RELATED NEWS

» Luhk sisters' friends, classmates to undergo counseling. **PAGE 3**

Volunteers join the search for missing girls Faloma and Maleina in As Teo yesterday morning. Over 150 civilians assisted about 90 local and federal law enforcers in the search over the weekend.

FERDIE DE LA TORRE



Interior sees no problem with Marpi power poles

» **Administration hopes to see project completed soon**

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**
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REPORTER

U.S. Interior's Office of Insular Affairs director Nikolao I. Pula says the construction of power poles as part of a federally funded public cemetery project has "no adverse effect" on Marpi, and that the project complies with Section 106 of



Pula

the National Historic Preservation Act.

Section 106 of the NHP mandates federal agencies to undergo a review process for all federally-funded and permitted projects that will impact sites listed on, or eligible for listing on, the National Register of Historic Places. Marpi has been designated as a National Historic Site. See **INTERIOR** on **Page 4**



Babauta

OIA: No telling on DHS worker regulations, Congress action

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**
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REPORTER

U.S. Interior's Assistant Secretary for Insular Affairs Tony Babauta said Friday that there is still no telling when the U.S. Department of Homeland Security will issue its transitional Common-

wealth-only worker regulations.

"I think DHS is well aware of the timeline and they're working to get the regulations out," Babauta said after meeting with Gov. Benigno R. Fitial and other officials on Friday.

Fitial recently said DHS could issue the worker regulations by May or June.

Employers, foreign workers and the general community have been asking for the release of the regulations ahead of the Nov. 28, 2011 expiration of CNMI-issued umbrella permits.

The DHS worker regulations will provide a system for alien workers employed in the CNMI, who are

not eligible for any other federal employment-based visa, to keep working in the CNMI during the five-year transition period ending on Dec. 31, 2014.

Babauta also reiterated that it will be up to the U.S. Congress to decide what to do with the Interior's

See **OIA** on **Page 4**

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Local

Balajadia, Bautista top Mount Carmel High graduates

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
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REPORTER

Maria Kristina S. Balajadia and Kevin Harvey G. Bautista were named most outstanding students of Mount Carmel High School during commencement exercises held Saturday night at the Mount Carmel Cathedral.

Balajadia, the daughter of Elizabeth and Victor Balajadia, was named this year's valedictorian and a recipient of other major awards, including the prestigious Bishop Tomas A. Camacho Christian Service Awards and President's Award for Meritorious Achievement.

A consistent honor student

since grade school, Balajadia will pursue a biology course under a pre-health program at the University of Washington in Seattle.

In a pre-award ceremony held at the Saipan World Resort Friday night, Balajadia was also a recipient of seven other special recognitions that included best in English, science, social science, theology, speech award, loyalty, and president's award for academic excellence.

"I am grateful because I worked really hard and I was able to accomplish all of that," she told *Saipan Tribune* Saturday night.

She said there's one great lesson she learned throughout



MARIA KRISTINA S. BALAJADIA
Valedictorian

high school: "Nothing can substitute hard work. You have to work hard if you want to get or achieve something."



KEVIN HARVEY G. BAUTISTA
Salutatorian

In her message to the graduates, Balajadia cited Mark Twain: "Twenty years from now you will more disap-

pointed by the things that you didn't do than by the ones you did do. So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover."

The class salutatorian, Kevin Harvey G. Bautista, is the son of Henry and Charito Bautista. He will pursue political science at the University of Michigan.

"It really feels great! This class is a great collection of intelligent, passionate, talented individuals who know what they want to do in life. It's a pleasure and privilege to be with them in four years and some of them 12 years," he said.

Besides getting the second top award, Bautista was also awarded five other special honors: best in social science, theology, speech award, loyalty award, and the president's award for academic excellence.

Lt. Governor Eloy Inos bestowed this year's governor's leadership award to Ryan Hide Nishizuka Demapan.

Mount Carmel president Margaret Dela Cruz, Superintendent of Catholic Schools Fr. Ryan Jimenez, and MCS board chair Elizabeth Balajadia conferred diplomas to 37 high school students during graduation rites keynoted by Justice A. Manglona Saturday night.

Esmero, Cristobal are GCA's top graduates

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
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REPORTER

Grace Christian Academy named Maria Allora A. Esmero and Christine Joyce G. Cristobal

as its most outstanding high school graduates, conferring on the two the valedictorian and salutatorian honors respectively.

Esmero, the daughter of Henric and Boy Esmero, was also

the recipient of the school's prestigious Eagle Award and nine other special honors, including the distinguished Christian high school student award, consistent honor roll, highest

GPA for the school year, loyalty award, perfect attendance, and leadership award. She was also recognized for her participation in the girls' volleyball team where she was recognized as the most improved player in the league.

The 18-year-old valedictorian will take up dentistry at the University of Guam. In a ceremony held Friday night at the school's auditorium, Esmero thanked and dedicated her achievements to her family, her mentors, and friends.

This year's GCA salutatorian is Christine Joyce G. Cristobal, who is also the recipient of five other special recognitions, including the citizenship award, consistent honor roll, and loyalty award. She was also recognized for her participation in the school's basketball team where she emerged as the group's most valuable player this year.

Christine Joyce is the daughter of Eusebio and Cecilia Cristobal. She will enroll



MARIA ALLORA ESMERO
Valedictorian

at the University of Guam for her pre-nursing course this fall semester.

GCA bestowed the Eagle runner-up award on Kamille M. De Leon, who also graduated with honors.

There are four students who graduated with honors this year: Esmero, Cristobal, De Leon, and Krisvel D. Eugenio.

Named honorable mentions were Joseph Nam and Asswathi Ashlee Das.

GCA conferred diplomas on 17 high school students this school year. The Class of 2011



CHRISTINE JOYCE CRISTOBAL
Salutatorian

includes Darlene Angeli Barcelona; Judah Basaldua; Brandon Chargualaf; Peter Young Cho; MinJong Choi; Christine Joyce Cristobal; Asswathi Ashlee Das; Kamille De Leon; Maria Allora Esmero; Krisvel Eugenio; Amy Ji; Hailie Kim; Colleen Kinsella; Kelvin Magsipoc; Joseph Nam; Brooke Sablan; Ann Zhou; and Ann Zhou.

GCA board chair Rev. Raymond Kinsella also offered special prayers for sisters Faloma Luhk and Maleina Luhk, the two sisters who have been missing since Wednesday.



MONETH DEPOSA

GCA confers diplomas on 17 high school students this school year.

Perez, Palijo are CCA's top graduates

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
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REPORTER

Seventeen-year-old Jermaine Reina Perez and Zelena Kaye Palijo were named Calvary Christian Academy's top graduates during commencement ceremonies on campus Friday night.

Jermaine Reina, the daughter of Reynaldo and Zenaida Perez, is this year's class valedictorian. She will pursue journalism at the Bob Jones University in South Carolina come fall semester.

"High school is just another chapter of our lives that is coming to a close, but we still have another chapter to go that is college. Calvary Christian Academy was the setting of our own high school chapter. And throughout the years, this school has helped us

work our way through the chapter to be ready for another chapter that is filled with more challenges for us," she said.

Perez encouraged all her peers not to give up on their dreams. "Do not give up. Don't stop reading through the chapters of life. And most of all do not give up in the race of your life. So that one day, we can say: 'I have fought the good fight, I have finished my course, and I have kept the faith. Keep on keeping on!'"

Zelena Kaye Palijo is the academy's salutatorian. She is the daughter of Carmela and John Palijo and like Perez, will also enroll at Bob Jones University to take up pre-medicine.

Both outstanding graduates dedicated their honors to family and mentors who molded them to become good citizens

and individuals.

Calvary Christian Academy principal Scott Norman conferred high school diplomas on five students this year: Jevina Jia Cepeda, Hiromasa Kawahara, Rachel Ann Masga, Zelena Kaye Palijo, and Jermaine Reina Perez.

In a ceremony Friday night, each graduate individually thanked their families and mentors for their guidance and support.

Norman, who was also the commencement speaker, shared the many good memories he had with the "unique class." He offered them guiding words as they journey to college life and beyond.

Following the graduation ceremonies was the senior's night that was also attended by families and friends of the graduates.



MONETH G. DEPOSA

Calvary Christian Academy principal Scott Norman poses with this year's high school graduates after commencement rites Friday night on campus. From left are salutatorian Zelena Kaye Palijo, Hiromasa Kawahara, Scott Norman, valedictorian Jermaine Reina Perez, Jevina Jia Cepeda, and Rachel Ann Masga.

Luhk sisters' friends, classmates to undergo counseling

» Maleina's group wins third place in Chamorro contest
» Awards dedicated to missing students

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
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REPORTER

The disappearance of Luhk sisters Faloma, 10, and Maleina, 9, is affecting not just their families but also their closest friends and classmates at Kagman Elementary School.

School principal Ignacia Demapan said that many of the sisters' closest friends and classmates are struggling to understand what has happened to their friends. To help the students cope, Demapan said the school will be holding special counseling sessions for its students starting this week.

Faloma and Maleina were both described as very friendly and active.

Eight-year-old Sean Rabauliman told *Saipan Tribune* that he will never forget the days he played with Maleina each day in school.

"Maleina loves to play. She's friendly and always active. The last time I saw her was Tuesday and...I am sad when I heard that she's missing now," said Rabauliman. "I hope that she comes back."

Keith Villagomez, a friend of Faloma, described her not only as an active person but also a funny one. "Although sometimes she cried because some people yell at her, for me she's still very active and funny. We played a lot and I hope she comes back home safe. I will pray for her and her sister," said the boy.

When asked if the sisters ever shared anything about their life

and families with friends, both Villagomez and Rabauliman said that "school activities and games" were their usual topics.

Villagomez and Rabauliman were among the Kagman Elementary School team that competed Saturday at the Public School System's Chamorro competition. They won third place in the Children's Choir category, where Maleina was a member.

Maleina's teacher, Zenaida Santos, recalled how excited Maleina was for the competition.

"When she came to class, she was so excited for this competition. So we brought her picture with us today. Maleina was supposed to compete but unfortunately she's not here so I asked my daughter to sing for her," she told *Saipan Tribune*.

The group dedicated their medals and trophies to the missing students.

Last Friday night, a prayer vigil was held at the school's stage for the two missing students. Today and the following days, Santos said more prayers will be offered for the safe homecoming of the Luhk sisters.

"We don't know what happened to her [Maleina]...but we're praying that she comes home safely and we miss her already," added Santos.

Other teachers and students at Kagman Elementary described the sisters as both smart and friendly.

Assembly

School principal Demapan said yesterday that because

MPLT sues 2 now residing in Guam for \$60,000 loan in '98

The Marianas Public Land Trust is suing two persons who are now residing in Guam for allegedly failing to pay a 1998 loan now amounting to \$50,610.64.

MPLT sued Roman P. Lizama and Namie Ilemelong for breach of contract, conversion, and unjust enrichment.

According to MPLT, as of Jan. 27, 2011, Lizama and Ilemelong owed plaintiff \$50,129.24 in principal balance, \$142.03 in interest, and \$339.37 in other unpaid fees, or for a total of \$50,610.64.

Attorney Robert T. Torres, counsel for MPLT, asked the Superior Court to order the foreclosure of the mortgaged property consisting of 856 square meters of land on Saipan.

Torres asked the court that the proceeds of the sale on the mortgaged property be applied to satisfy the balance payment.

Torres stated in the complaint that on June 30, 1998, the defendants executed a loan agreement and note with MPLT in the amount of \$60,000. He said the

two failed to make the monthly payments due.

"Defendants converted the total principal amount of \$50,129.24, by holding it without claim or right and despite demand made by plaintiff for its return," Torres said. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)



MONETH G. DEPOSA

Kagman Elementary School teacher Zenaida Santos, center, holds Maleina Luhk's photograph as they receive the third place award for the Chamorro children's choir competition Saturday at Hopwood Junior High School ground. Maleina, who was missing since Wednesday last week with sister Faloma, was supposed to be a member of the competing group.

many students are still unaware of the Luhk sisters' disappearance, a special assembly will be held this week to explain the matter to the students. The assembly will take place during the school's students of the month recognition ceremony.

Demapan disclosed that as

soon as she confirmed the disappearance of the sisters, she gathered all teachers Friday morning to update them.

"It was a very hard situation. It's a very emotional day not only for us and the teachers...but to our students who don't know how to react. Our immediate concern now is to

help the sisters' closest friends and classmates who are affected and are still struggling with the situation. We will provide counseling for them," she said yesterday.

Education Commissioner Rita A. Sablan said the sister's disappearance is "a sad day for PSS." She encouraged all schools to join the Luhk family in praying for the safe return of the missing girls. She declined to comment further.

The Luhk sisters, according

Tinian hot pepper's protection pushed

The popular Tinian hot pepper should be conserved and protected just like other plants in the "Directory of Traditional Healers and Medical Plants in the CNMI," according to a bill that Rep. Trenton Conner (R-Tinian) has introduced.

Conner describes the Tinian hot pepper as "one of the most popular and threatened resources on Tinian."

House Bill 17-195 says there's "unsustainable" harvesting practices that include the killing of hot pepper plants by uprooting the entire plant or by

the unnecessary cutting of hot pepper plants.

Because of such practice, the bill says Tinian and Aguiguan or any district where conservation is an issue, "should be able to protect this vital resource through local law and regulations."

The bill is now under review by the House Committee on Natural Resources.

The popularity of the Tinian hot pepper has spawned the annual Tinian hot pepper festival, drawing residents from Tinian, Rota and Saipan and tourists. (*Haidee V. Eugenio*)

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SEARCH

From Page 1

The Department of Public Safety put up checkpoints in As Teo, Kagman, and San Vicente yesterday afternoon to hand out fliers about the missing girls to motorists.

Police spokesman Jason Tarkong said the Navy helicopter and Air Force plane joined the islandwide search starting at 12:30pm yesterday, about 102 hours since the last time somebody saw the two sisters.

Jermain Quitugua, 33, mother of the Luhk sisters, said she still hopes to see her daughters alive. "I'm still trying to keep strong," she said.

Saipan Tribune met Quitugua as she emerged from the Incident Command Post at the Kagman Community Center where law enforcers held a briefing with volunteers yesterday morning.

"I want to express gratitude to everybody for helping in the search for my daughters," said Quitugua, who arrived from Guam Thursday night.

Quitugua refused to talk about former Saipan police officer Ruhtick Luhk, the father of 10-year-old Faloma and 9-year-old Maleina, who reportedly now lives in Pohnpei, beside saying she will talk to the media further in due time.

The girls have been living with their grandparents—Elbert and Jane Quitugua, of Santa Lourdes, As Teo—for almost three years now.

At 10am yesterday, Tarkong led a team of police officers search the jungles of As Teo. Over 20 civilian volunteers carrying fliers about the missing girls were also seen walking around As Teo.

Tarkong said they all went back to Kagman Community Center around

noon. He said an islandwide search would follow.

On Saturday, 60 law enforcers supported by 140 volunteers conducted an islandwide search, but no trace of the girls was found. The searchers checked beaches and conducted house to house visits where they distributed fliers.

"We covered the entire island yesterday [Saturday]," said acting police commissioner Ramon Mafnas.

Mafnas said the target of yesterday's search were the jungles and caves of As Teo. He said DPS is working with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Im-

migration and Customs Enforcement, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Drug Enforcement Administration, and U.S. Marshal Service.

"DPS and the government are asking the community to assist in the search. The most important is to give us information," he said.

When asked if it was possible the girls may have already been spirited out of the CNMI, Mafnas said the two have no passports.

Mafnas said he could not release information about the investigation so not to jeopardize the ongoing probe and search operations.

Mafnas said DPS is extending its gratitude to the private sector and the many volunteers who donated food and drinks to law enforcers.

Suni Aveina, 27, brought two of her three children—ages 5 and 8—to Kagman Community Center yesterday to assist in the search. Aveina said she heard about DPS' call for volunteers on Saturday at the Taste of the Marianas, prompting her to volunteer.

Aveina and her two children joined other volunteers in combing the roads of As Teo and in handing out fliers to motorists and residents. They were asked to stay away from the jungles for

their safety.

Aveina said she brought along her children because, as a mother, she could feel the pain of the family.

"I want the family to get the girls back. They're sweet girls," she said. "I'm teaching my children the values on the need to help. The community support is awesome."

Police said the grandparents learned that the girls were missing when they failed to return home after school around 3:30pm Wednesday.

The girls were reportedly last seen Wednesday at 6am as they were leaving their house in As Teo on their way to a bus stop. Police said witnesses spotted the sisters sitting across from the stop on a drainage cement slab around 6:10am. Police learned that the two missed their 6:30am bus.



FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Police officer Jason Tarkong, fourth from left, conducts a briefing for police officers, as acting Department of Public Safety commissioner Ramon Mafnas, extreme left, listens, before the search began yesterday morning in As Teo.

OIA

From Page 1

recommendation of granting improved status to foreign workers who have been legally in the CNMI for at least five years.

"My responsibility and my duty to Congress is do what Congress asked me to do [under Public Law 110-229], to give them a report and recommendations," he said.

In end-April last year, Babauta personally handed to the Fitial administration a copy of the Interior report and recommendations.

These include conferring outright U.S. citizenship on long-term aliens by an act of Congress, granting them permanent residency status leading to U.S. citizenship, or granting of a status similar to those given to Freely Associated States citizens.

INTERIOR

From Page 1

Landmark.

Pula's response to the U.S. Advisory Council on Historic Preservation comes weeks after Friends of Marpi protested and sued the CNMI government over the installation of power poles, which they say destroy the natural beauty of the northern part of Saipan.

Friends of Marpi had also asked for agencies' review of the project, to determine whether federal laws were violated in the power poles construction.

Pula's May 24 response letter to U.S. Advisory Council on Historic Preservation assistant director Charlene Dwin Vaughn explains OIA's "compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act" for the power poles as part of the Marpi public cemetery project.

Pula clarified that OIA provided grant funding to the CNMI for the construction of the Marpi public cemetery as a whole and not just for the installation of the power poles to the project site.

"Thus, our compliance with Section 106 of the NHPA was not limited solely to the power infrastructure," Pula told Vaughn in a three-page letter, which has nine attachments.

Pula also said that documentation requirements for a finding of no adverse effect were provided, pursuant to 36 Code of Federal Regulations Part 800.11 (e).

Press secretary Angel Demapan, when asked for comment, said the Fitial administration "wholeheartedly

welcomes this latest communication in which the Office of Insular Affairs clearly stated that they find 'no adverse effect' in the implementation of the Marpi Public Cemetery project, which includes the installation of power poles to supply power from the grid to the cemetery."

"We hope that the response from OIA Director Nik Pula will provide the clarification that the Friends of Marpi was seeking for. Moreover, we are now hopeful that the Superior Court will review Director Pula's letter and allow the project to proceed to completion," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

Demapan said throughout this ordeal, there has been a great stir of controversy, most of it rather unnecessary, "had adequate research been conducted by the opposing party."

"In the same breath, the administration would like to reiterate the confidence it has in the CIP Office to carry out its duties in accordance to governing procedures and statutes. As is evident in the letter from OIA, the CIP Office ensured that all compliance requirements were met as the project progressed," he added.

The power poles are part of a \$2.9-million project to build a Marpi public cemetery. The poles are supposed to supply power to the Marpi public cemetery and the CNMI Veterans Cemetery.

With only two more power poles needing to be installed, the Superior Court granted on April 15 a 90-day temporary stop on the power poles installation in response to Friends of Marpi's request.

At the same time, over 300 residents, including the Saipan and North-

ern Islands mayors, signed a petition supporting the power poles. The petitioners submitted their petition and signatures to the House of Representatives last week.

Friends of Marpi also earlier launched an online petition opposing the power poles, many of them currently based in areas outside the CNMI.

Compliance review

Pula, in his letter, gave a brief background information on the project, starting with OIA's award of a capital improvement project grant funding to the CNMI government in 2000 for the construction of a 19.77-acre Marpi public cemetery.

The Marpi public cemetery is located adjacent to and partially surrounds the Veterans Cemetery.

After receipt of the award, the CNMI government initiated the local permitting process through its Coastal Resources Management Office.

Pula said the CRMO process involves a compliance review of local laws, which generally complements and assists with OIA's compliance with Section 106 of the NHPA and Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.

He said CRM prepared an archaeological survey to assess the potential impacts to cultural resources associated with the proposed cemetery project.

CRMO also held a public hearing to solicit comments from the public about the project.

Pula said at the time, the cemetery's power source was to be provided by two on-site generators, but electrical design plans were developed in the event the CNMI opted

to extend the power grid to the Marpi area in the future.

In August 2004, CRMO issued its permit with approval signatures from all CRM board agencies. However, the project was delayed due to ongoing formal Endangered Species Act Section 7 consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and other unrelated factors.

Construction of the Veterans Cemetery was completed in 2006.

Scope of work

Pula said the CNMI government submitted a scope of work for the public cemetery project to OIA shortly after the funding was awarded in 2000. But he said the scope of work only encompassed the design and permitting portions of the project.

It was not until November 2009 that OIA received a complete scope of work for the project, including the construction portion.

"This complete scope of work indicated that the cemetery would be powered by connecting the project to the existing power grid rather than by onsite generators," Pula said.

He said the decision to install power lines instead of using generators was made by the CNMI Capital Improvement Project Office, with concurrence from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

Pula said in November 2009, the CIP Office submitted the scope of work and project design plans to CRMO to amend and extend the original permit issued in 2004.

"The submittal letter specifically mentioned that the project had been modified to bring power to the site.

The submitted design plans reflected this change as well. The CRMO approved the request in a letter dated Nov. 25, 2009," Pula told Vaughn.

In addition, serving as OIA's non-federal designee, the CIP Office informally submitted the same plans to the CNMI Historic Preservation Office.

Pula said as a CRMO board member, it was assumed that the CNMI HPO would also receive information officially through the CRM permit process.

On Dec. 1, 2009, the CNMI HPO provided its Section 106 NHPA concurrence letter which also stated that the National Park Service had been consulted and agreed with the CNMI HPO that the proposed undertaking would have "no adverse effect" on the characteristics of the National Historic Landmark.

Pula said this letter supplemented a previous Nov. 10, 2009 letter from the CNMI HPO in which it concurred with the recommendations as presented in the 2004 archaeological survey report.

Having concluded the local and federal regulatory review of permitting process, the CIP Office submitted a Record of Environmental Consideration to OIA in March 2010.

Pula said based upon a review of the REC and the supporting documentation, OIA concluded its National Environmental Policy Act review shortly thereafter and issued the Authorization to Proceed allowing the construction to begin in June 2010.

"Today, the Marpi Public Cemetery is largely constructed with the installation of the power poles being one of the final remaining components," Pula said.

CNMI awarded \$1.4M for housing assistance programs

By **CLARISSA V. DAVID**
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REPORTER

The CNMI will receive some \$1.4 million in block grant funding after the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development announced the final block grant allocations to 1,200 state and local governments for fiscal year 2011.

In a statement released Friday, HUD said it will give the Commonwealth \$824,363 in Community Development Block Grant funds, which are distributed to communities according to a statutory formula based on population, poverty, age of its housing stock, and extent of overcrowded housing. "The rehabilitation of afford-

able housing and the improvement of public facilities have traditionally been the largest uses of CDBG, although the program is also an important catalyst for job growth and business opportunities," the statement said.

A total of \$570,054 has been allotted for the HOME Investment Partnerships Program,

the largest federal block grant to state and local governments designed exclusively to produce affordable housing for low-income families.

The HOME Program has produced more than one million homes for low-income families through its cost-effective funding that leverages nearly \$4 in other investments for each

HOME dollar spent.

The Commonwealth will also receive \$40,642 in Emergency Shelter Grants. ESG provides homeless persons with basic shelter and essential supportive services as well as short-term homeless prevention assistance to persons at imminent risk of losing their own housing due to eviction, fore-

closure, or utility shutoffs.

HUD Secretary Shaun Donovan said these programs are "absolutely critical" to all communities across the U.S.

However, with the federal government operating under the FY2011 Continuing Resolution, funding for the CDBG and HOME programs has been significantly reduced compared to last year.

The CDBG overall funding was reduced by about 16.5 percent or by more than \$600 million. Meanwhile, the HOME program grant decreased by 11.7 percent or by more than \$200 million.

"The 2011 budget agreement required tough choices, and we would not have made many of them in better circumstances, but beginning to live within our means is the only way to protect those investments that will help America with the future and compete for new jobs," Donovan said.

He added, "As we work under the challenges of our nation's deficit, we must also understand that these programs are absolutely essential in promoting community development, producing affordable housing, helping our homeless and even supporting long-term disaster recovery."

3 girls to duke it out for Ms. Liberation Day Queen title

By **CLARISSA V. DAVID**
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Three young ladies who will vie for the 2011 Liberation Day Queen title were officially introduced to the media in a ceremony at the Saipan Mayor's Office conference room Friday afternoon.

Candidates for this year's Liberation Day Queen are Joni C. Castro, Mariah I. Ada, and Nizelynn T. Masayos.

Mayor Donald G. Flores, Liberation Queen Committee chair Vynicia Seman, and 2010 Liberation Queen Josifynn Vivian "Peachy" Quitugua presented each of the candidates with a sash and 50 ticket booklets that they will sell to win the contest.

Fifteen-year-old Castro is a ninth grader at Saipan Southern High School and dreams of becoming a teacher someday. The youngest daughter of Frances Cruz, Castro joined Little Miss CNMI wherein she won Best in Sportswear.

"I wanted to experience new things and get used to public speaking and appearances. I want to gain confidence and meet a lot of people by joining this competition," she told *Saipan Tribune*.

Ada, 18, is a junior at Saipan Southern High School. She is the youngest child and only daughter of Bertha and James. Ada, who also plans to become a teacher, said she was inspired by her mother who joined the same competition in 1986.

"I took it as a challenge from my mom who was a candidate for the 1986 Liberation Queen. I want to be around other people, get to know them, and hopefully learn to open up to them," she said.

Seventeen-year-old Masayos is one of the five children of Nizer and Rosalinda. A junior at Kagman High School, Masayos plans to take up Criminal Justice and become a lawyer in the future. She was inspired to join the contest by her aunt Francella Mengar.

"My aunt Francella won Royal Princess in 1994 that's why I decided to sign up for Liberation Queen. By joining the contest, I want to meet new friends. I'm excited and I hope to sell my tickets to my family and friends," she said.

Mayor Flores encouraged the candidates to "wear the sash and be proud" to be a part of this year's Liberation Queen.

For her part, Quitugua advised the aspiring candidates

not to be shy about approaching people and selling tickets.

"You're going to be really busy and meet a lot of public of-

ficials. But the hard work pays off. You'll feel accomplished and it's a really nice exposure for yourself," she said.

Seman said the candidates will be selling their tickets for \$1 each or \$5 per booklet, which contains six tickets.

She added that the candidates will participate in a number of activities, including the Liberation Day parade.



CLARISSA V. DAVID

The three young ladies vying for the 2011 Liberation Queen title are flocked by family members and committee members during the presentation ceremony held at the Mayor's conference room on Friday afternoon. This year's candidates are Joni Castro, 15; Mariah Ada, 18; and Nizelynn Masayos, 17.

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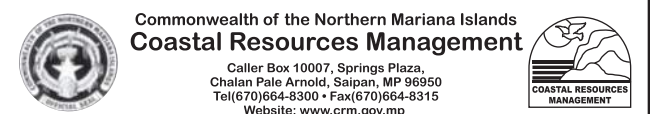
Commonwealth Zoning Board Special Meeting Agenda

Thursday, June 2nd, 2011, 12:00 PM,
Gourmet Restaurant (next to Dollar Days),
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan

- A. Preliminary Matters
 1. Call to Order
 2. Roll Call
- B. Executive (Closed) Session—Personnel and Legal Issues Relating to Enforcement.
- C. Adjourn.

This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & 10 CMC 3511, et seq.).

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Zoning Board Chairman



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Coastal Resources Management

Caller Box 10007, Springs Plaza,
Chalan Pale Arnold, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 664-8300 • Fax: (670) 664-8315
Website: www.crm.gov.mp

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Coastal Resources Management Office (CRMO) will hold a public hearing regarding Coastal Permit Application No. SMS-2011-X-030 submitted by RPCF, Inc. on behalf of Mr. Joaquin Manglona of Resources Management International Corporation to operate a rock quarry and rock crushing operation and to construct an office facility. The project site is located on public land, lot no. 069 A 01 in As Matuis, Saipan adjacent to the quarries of Camacho Equipment and JG Sablan. The site has been previously quarried. The method of quarrying will be to use heavy equipment and no blasting.

The public hearing will be held on Tuesday, June 14, 2011, 6:30 P.M. at the CRM office located in the Springs Plaza, Gualo Rai.

The public is invited to attend and make oral comments regarding this project. The project file is open for review during business hours from 7:30 A.M. – 4:30 P.M. Monday - Friday. Written comments may be submitted to the CRM office or mailed to Coastal Resources Management Office, Caller Box 10007, Saipan or fax at 664-8315. All written and oral comments received will become part of the permit application record and will be considered in any decision made concerning the proposed project.

Please contact Coastal Resources Management at 664-8300/1 if you require further information regarding this project and/or public hearing.

/s/ RITA C. CHONG-DELA CRUZ
Administrator
Coastal Resources Management



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS CUC-RFP-11-039

PETROLEUM PIPELINE CONSTRUCTION MANAGER

Closing Date: 06/16/2011, 10:00 AM (ChST)

Please register for the complete Scope-of-work and Project details at CUC website: <http://cuccnmi.net> **PROJECT COMMENCES IN JUNE, 2011.**

/s/ ABE UTU MALAE
Executive Director

USS Cowpens' sailors help clean up CK cemetery

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Some 37 enlisted members of USS *Cowpens* traded their R&R time to doing yard work at the Chalan Kanoa cemetery Friday morning.

The Navy service members from the guided missile cruiser homeported in Yokosuka in Japan, which docked at the Saipan port on Thursday, joined about 13 staff from the Saipan Mayor's Office, cemetery committee members, and other volunteers clear the cemetery of weeds, cut tree branches, and haul trash.

"We want to help the community of every port that we go to and build strong relationship with the locals," Lt. Tae Kim, who led the Navy team, said in an interview.

Kim, who is on his first visit to Saipan, said that some of his crew members have been here as many as seven times and signed up to volunteer their time to do community service while on island.

"They could be fishing or diving but they chose to do community service," he told *Saipan Tribune*. "It says a lot about their character and commitment to do something good in the community."

Kim noted, however, that they will only be doing one volunteer work since they are scheduled



Enlisted members of USS Cowpens join other volunteers take a break for a group photo during the Chalan Kanoa cemetery cleanup on Friday morning.

CLARISSA V. DAVID

to depart Saipan today.

"Saipan is beautiful and the weather is nice. If we come back again, we're willing to do whatever needs to be done," added Kim.

Ed Tenorio, cemetery committee chair, said the activity was coordinated by Janice Tenorio of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce. "She was instrumental in making this possible," he said.

Tenorio said the activity aims to ensure that maintenance of the cemetery isn't done only in preparation for All Saints Day and All Souls Day.

"We plan to do this cleanup at the cemetery regularly, at least once a month, and coordinate it with other community members," he said.

Tenorio emphasized the importance of maintaining the cleanliness at the cemetery not

only for families who pay respect to their departed loved ones but also for tourists who visit or stop by the cemetery.

"We [urge] the public to refrain from bringing their house trash and dumping it at the cemetery. We're asking for the entire community's cooperation. Let's all get together and make the cemetery look like it's al-

ways Nov. 1," he added.

Doris Nuique, cemetery committee member, said the assistance of the USS *Cowpens* is a big help. "Every time they visit here, they coordinate with us. It's really a big help for us," she said.

Nuique thanked other community members who donated resources for the activity. They

are Reps. Ralph Demapan, Antonio Sablan and Edmund Vilagomez; Max Aguon; Felipe Fejeran; James Sablan; Rose Magofna; Lilian S. Cabrera; Mr. and Mrs. Vicente N. Santos and Mr. and Mrs. Jesus Q. Deleon Guerrero; and Fr. Jesse Reyes.

Those who want to help clean up the cemetery may call 234-3000.

14 corporate teams sweat it out in scholarship fundraiser

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

From a tug-of-war to food fear factor, 14 of the CNMI's corporate entities sweated it out in yesterday's competitive races and games to help raise funds for the Saipan Chamber of Commerce's scholarship program.

Corporate Challenge, one of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce's signature fundraisers for its scholarship program, drew hundreds of participants and guests from morning to afternoon at the Minatchom At-dao area in Susupe.

Each of the 14 corporate entities paid \$300 as entry fee, for a total of \$4,200. This amount will be added to \$10,000 in scholarship funds that will be awarded on Wednesday to five high school students, said Chamber executive director Richard Pierce. The scholarship award is \$2,000 each.

Donations of over \$2,000 from 53 companies also helped with the prizes and awards, Pierce added.

Marpac Distributors emerged as the first place winner, while Coca Cola/Glimpses of Saipan got second place, Pierce said. Pacific Islands Club bagged the third place.

Coca Cola/ Glimpses of Saipan also won the first "Team Spirit" Award for the

best theme booth. Corporate teams decorated their tents or booths with recycled materials in line with this year's theme, "Island Style Recycling."

For many, Corporate Challenge is more than a fundraiser but an opportunity for corporate personnel's teambuilding during a day of fun, food, and festivities.

Jamika Reyes, team captain for DFS Galleria, said the event is a morale-booster for their employees and a time to get together on a weekend for a worthy cause. DFS Galleria brought some 50 of its employees, along with their families, to the event.

Reyes also said their decorative booth is made of recycled materials, in keeping with DFS Galleria's commitment to reduce carbon footprint.

"We didn't spend anything on the booth. We used what we already have," she told *Saipan Tribune*.

Karrie Esperanza, team captain for Docomo Pacific, said the event was "a time for us to get together and have a great time." Team Docomo Pacific had 24 employees, along with their families.

"We won the tug-of-war. That felt good," said Reyes, who has been with Docomo Pacific for three years.

Pacific Islands Club's team captain Evan Hunsberger, for

his part, said PIC has been a strong supporter of the Chamber's scholarship program. He said the PIC team finished second in the egg toss contest.

First Hawaiian Bank-Oleai Branch manager Victoria Concepcion said getting together their 29 staff, along with their families, is an important day.

"This is only our second year to join, and this is a good day to spend with your colleagues and staff. It's a great day," she said.

Fewer corporate teams

While this year's number of participants is slightly above the average of 12, the 14 participating teams are a lot fewer than the 23 teams last year.

Pierce said last year, there were some corporate entities that had three separate teams, boosting the number to 23.

He also said the economic challenges are also a big factor. But he said the Chamber is thankful for the continued support of corporate entities to help deserving students.

Besides the top three winners, the other participants in this year's Corporate Challenge are: DFS Galleria, Delta Management/Shell, Docomo Pacific, Fiesta Resort & Spa, First Hawaiian Bank, G4S Security Service (CNMI), IT&E, MCV, Microl Toyota, TakeCare, and Triple J.

MISSING SISTERS

Last seen: As Teo, Saipan CNMI
Date missing: 6am, Wednesday, May 25, 2011
Name: Luhk, Maleina
Age: 9 years old
Height: 4 feet
Weight: 50-60 pounds
Eyes: Brown
Hair: Brown
Body: Petite
Complexion: Tan
Characteristics: Circle birthmark left cheek
Last wearing: White blouse and jeans



Last seen: As Teo, Saipan CNMI
Date missing: 6am, Wednesday, May 25, 2011
Name: Luhk, Faloma
Age: 10 years old
Height: 5.1 feet
Weight: 90 pounds
Eyes: Brown
Hair: Short brown
Body: Petite
Complexion: Tan
Last wearing: Light green shirt with a butterfly design on the front with blue jeans



DPS is seeking help from the public. Please call 911 or contact the Crime Stoppers hotline at 234-7272 should you want to remain anonymous or use our website at www.nmicrimestoppers.com. Crime stoppers pays up to \$1,000.00 for any information leading to an arrest. Additional \$1,000.00 is also being offered!

Please help FIND FALOMA AND MALEINA
Family Contact Nos. 256-0054 or 285-4048



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-11-010

Supply of Utility Billing, Financial and Payroll Computer System

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from utility billing software development firms, for the Purchase of Utility Billing Software and preventative maintenance tracking software for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The work includes a needs assessment; training; project management; data conversion; and application. Deliverables may include a quotation for equipment to support the project and a performance report.

The bid package & specification will be **e-mailed** upon request, to all interested offeror, by the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-proposal Conference will be held on **June 03, 2011 at 11:00 AM (ChST)**, at CUC Main Conference Room No. 10, 3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "**CUC-RFP-11-010, Supply of Utility Billing, Financial and Payroll Computer System**" to CUC Procurement & Supply Division, 3rd Floor, Room No.4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O.Box 501220, Dandan, Saipan MP 96950, no later than **June 16, 2011 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. A copy of the entire submission is also required to be sent by email to Mr. Manuel B. Sablan, Jr. Purchasing Officer via email address msablan@cucgov.net and Janina Muna, Procurement & Supply Administrative Assistant via email address mika_muna@cucgov.net or alternately include a CD with each copy of the submission. Proposals mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

All inquiries must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on June 06, 2011 to Mr. Manuel B. Sablan, Jr. Purchasing Officer via email address msablan@cucgov.net; Ms. Janina Muna, Procurement & Supply Administrative Assistant via email address mika_muna@cucgov.net; and Mr. Charles Warren, Chief Financial Officer via email address charles_warren@cucgov.net. CUC will respond to any questions and clarifications only to prospective offerors who have registered with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division for the solicitation.

This Request for Proposal does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals in anticipation of a contract. Selection procedure shall be in full compliance with CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and waive any imperfection in the Request for Proposal in the best interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

ABE UTU MALAE
Executive Director



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-11-036

GASIFICATION OR WASTE TO ENERGY GENERATION

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified and experienced Independent Power Producers (IPP), to supply electrical energy or synthetic diesel - produced from commercially proven Waste to Energy (WTE) or Gasification systems, for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

CUC seeks responses from qualified developers from which the CUC intends to select one respondent to negotiate Power Purchase Agreements (PPA) and install Gasification or Waste to Energy generation facilities that best fit the CUC's requirements. Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) will be the feedstock.

The Scope of Services requested in the Request for Proposal shall include, but not be limited to, securing sites, all permits and approvals from governing agencies, and providing all labor, services and equipment necessary to design, procure, install, construct, test, commission, monitor, operate, and maintain fully operational Gasification or Waste to Energy Generating Facilities. Selected IPP(s) will be responsible for operating and maintaining all facets of the Generating Facility (ies) and for generating the required output as described in the Request for Proposal.

The RFP package and Scope-of-Service will be e-mailed to all interested Offeror, upon receipt of a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check, in the amount of \$ 200.00 for one set; by the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-proposal Conference will be held on **June 21, 2011 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**, at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

One (1) original and Six (6) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "**CUC-RFP-11-036 "Gasification or Waste to Energy Generation"**" to CUC Procurement & Supply Division, 3rd Floor, Room No.4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O.Box 501220, Dandan, Saipan MP 96950, no later than **August 30, 2011 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. A copy of the entire submission is also required to be sent by email to Mr. Manuel B. Sablan, Jr. Purchasing Officer via email address msablan@cucgov.net and Janina Muna, Procurement & Supply Administrative Assistant via email address mika_muna@cucgov.net or alternately include a CD with each copy of the submission. Proposals mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

All inquiries must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on **July 19, 2011** to Mr. Manuel B. Sablan, Jr. Purchasing Officer via email address msablan@cucgov.net; Ms. Janina Muna, Procurement & Supply Administrative Assistant via email address mika_muna@cucgov.net; and Mr. Wallon Young, Deputy Director, Power Generation/Distribution, via email address wallon59@yahoo.com. CUC will respond to any questions and clarifications only to prospective offerors who have registered with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division for the solicitation.

This Request for Proposal does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals in anticipation of a contract. Selection procedure shall be in full compliance with CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and waive any imperfection in the Request for Proposal in the best interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

ABE UTU MALAE
Executive Director



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-11-010

Supply of Utility Billing, Financial and Payroll Computer System
ADDENDUM NO. 1

May 26, 2011

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is issuing the following amendments to CUC-RFP-11-010, Supply of Utility Billing, Financial and Payroll Computer System:

- One (1) original and Five (5) copies** must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-RFP-11-010, Supply of Utility Billing, Financial and Payroll Computer System" to CUC Procurement & Supply Division, 3rd Floor, Room No.4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O.Box 501220, Dandan, Saipan MP 96950, no later than **July 07, 2011 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. A copy of the entire submission is also required to be sent by email to Mr. Manuel B. Sablan, Jr. Purchasing Officer via email address msablan@cucgov.net and Janina Muna, Procurement & Supply Administrative Assistant via email address mika_muna@cucgov.net or alternately include a CD with each copy of the submission. Proposals mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

A Pre-proposal Conference will be held on **June 03, 2011 at 11:00 AM (ChST)**, at CUC Main Conference Room No. 10, 3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All inquiries must be submitted in writing no later than June 10, 2011 at 10:00 AM (ChST) to Mr. Manuel B. Sablan, Jr. Purchasing Officer via email address msablan@cucgov.net; Ms. Janina Muna, Procurement & Supply Administrative Assistant via email address mika_muna@cucgov.net; and Mr. Charles Warren, Chief Financial Officer via email address charles_warren@cucgov.net. CUC will respond to any questions and clarifications only to prospective offerors who have registered with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division for the solicitation.

- Scope-of-Work, Page 26, at letter c:** "Considering the SO 1 requirements which CUC must meet, an aggressive schedule for the design and execution of the project is required four months after the Notice to Proceed. Does the Proposed schedule meet this requirement?" **AMENDED AS FOLLOW:** "Considering the SO 1 requirement which CUC must meet, an aggressive schedule for the design and execution of the project is requested."
- Scope-of-Work, Page 5, section 2, Introduction:** **AMENDED AS FOLLOW:** "Systems must be in place and operational by: As soon as possible".
- Appendix C** is not required, as price is part of Appendix B. Appendix C stricken from appendices.

ABE UTU MALAE
Executive Director



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-11-037

EXHAUST HEAT RECOVERY PROJECT
ORGANIC RANKINE CYCLE (ORC)

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified and experienced companies or IPPs, to supply electrical energy produced from commercially proven Exhaust Heat Recovery systems (Organic Rankine Cycle), for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation. The heat recovery system will be tied to the exhaust systems on diesel engines at Power Plant No.1 in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

CUC seeks responses from qualified developers from which the CUC intends to select one respondent to negotiate Power Purchase Agreements (PPA) and install Exhaust Heat Recovery systems that best fit the CUC's requirements.

The Scope of Services requested in the Request for Proposal shall include, but not be limited to, any permits and approvals from governing agencies, and providing all labor, services and equipment necessary to design, procure, install, construct, test, commission, monitor, operate, and maintain fully the Exhaust Heat Recovery Systems.

The RFP package and Scope-of-Service will be e-mailed to all interested Offeror, upon receipt of a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check, in the amount of \$ 200.00 for one set; by the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-proposal Conference will be held on **June 22, 2011 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**, at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

One (1) original and Six (6) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "**CUC-RFP-11-037 "Exhaust Heat Recovery Project"**" to CUC Procurement & Supply Division, 3rd Floor, Room No.4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O.Box 501220, Dandan, Saipan MP 96950, no later than **August 18, 2011 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. A copy of the entire submission is also required to be sent by email to Mr. Manuel B. Sablan, Jr. Purchasing Officer via email address msablan@cucgov.net and Janina Muna, Procurement & Supply Administrative Assistant via email address mika_muna@cucgov.net or alternately include a CD with each copy of the submission. Proposals mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

All inquiries must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on **July 19, 2011** to Mr. Manuel B. Sablan, Jr. Purchasing Officer via email address msablan@cucgov.net; Ms. Janina Muna, Procurement & Supply Administrative Assistant via email address mika_muna@cucgov.net; and Mr. Wallon Young, Deputy Director, Power Generation/Distribution, via email address wallon59@yahoo.com. CUC will respond to any questions and clarifications only to prospective offerors who have registered with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division for the solicitation.

This Request for Proposal does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals in anticipation of a contract. Selection procedure shall be in full compliance with CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and waive any imperfection in the Request for Proposal in the best interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

ABE UTU MALAE
Executive Director



MARPI CLEANUP

About 80 Japanese citizens, including 66 members of the Nenpou Shinkyuu Buddhist Denomination, pose for a group photo after cleaning up the Banzai and Marpi areas on Saturday morning, May 21, 2011. According to Mr. Okeya, president of the organization, the members cleaned up the area as a sign of respect for all World War II victims.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

It's time to quit smoking

» Tomorrow, May 31, is World No Tobacco Day

Health workers throughout the Pacific region will raise their voices of warning about the dangers of tobacco smoking to a higher level tomorrow, May 31, as countries and territories mark World No Tobacco Day.

As they increase their efforts to persuade people to quit, this year they will also honour the global health treaty—the World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control.

The treaty has been ratified by 171 countries, meaning that about 87 percent of the world's population has access to increased tobacco control measures in their countries.

The Secretariat of the Pacific Community and other international agencies promote and support Pacific Island countries and territories, PICTs, in their work to implement FCTC. For those who are not signatories to FCTC, SPC provides support

with the development and implementation of comprehensive tobacco control strategies.

Each year, health workers in PICTs organize special events and publicity to mark World No Tobacco Day, including marches, banners, advertising and media coverage.

SPC's Non-communicable Disease Adviser on Tobacco, Jeanie McKenzie, said there had been some notable successes in the Pacific region, but many challenges lie ahead.

'Many countries have made substantial inroads in developing strong tobacco control legislation, including the enforcement of smoke-free public places and substantial tax increases on tobacco products.

'Country after country has banned tobacco advertising, promotion and sponsorship and strengthened health warnings on cigarette packs,' she said.

Australia is currently seeking support for its plan to introduce plain packaging, which would mean that cigarettes are sold in a dark olive brown packet with

graphic health warnings on the front and back and the name of the brand of cigarettes written in a plain font, without any marketing or other branding.

The intention is to reduce the appeal of the tobacco products, particularly to young people, and to increase the visibility of the health warning.

PICTs already have written health warnings on most cigarettes, with the exception of some illegally imported cigarettes, and are also starting to embrace graphic warnings, she said.

'We hope cigarettes sold in the Pacific will shortly also only be available in plain packages.

The tobacco industry however isn't giving up without a fight and uses every opportunity to challenge the initiatives known to be most effective globally.'

McKenzie said FCTC is focusing on the issue of tobacco industry interference and noted that, as in the rest of the world, PICTs play an important role in demonstrating strong leadership and ensuring public health interests are paramount and at the forefront of the debate.

'With the upcoming UN Summit on NCDs (September 19–20), the world will have plenty of opportunity to reflect on the contribution that tobacco control makes to development and alleviating poverty.'

'The Pacific in a position to make a strong contribution to the negotiations,' she said. (SPC)

MBA's Hwang accepted to national scholars society

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Marianas Baptist Academy's Se Young Hwang was recognized for her superior academic achievement by being accepted to the National Society of High School Scholars.

The 15-year-old student is the daughter of Yang Tack Hwang and Young Shin Park. She recently completed 10th grade, achieving the highest academic honor with her principal's list award.

'It feels great and I was truly honored by this recognition. This reminds me to continue to try harder in my academics,' Hwang told *Saipan Tribune*.

The National Society of High School Scholars recognizes top scholars who have achieved academic excellence.

Hwang is a consistent honor student since grade school. She is a member of the CNMI team that will compete next month in the National Forensic League competitions in Dallas, Texas.

In 2009, Hwang emerged champion in the Regional Scripps Spelling Bee in Guam, allowing her to compete in the national event. This school year, she represented her school in almost all academic

competitions on island, including mock trial, mathcourt, and academic challenge.

Hwang's acceptance into the National Society of High School Scholars was announced by the society's founder and chairman, Claes Nobel, a senior member of the family that established the Nobel Prizes.

'On behalf of NSHSS, I am honored to recognize the hard work, sacrifice, and commitment that Hwang has demonstrated to achieve this level of academic excellence. She is now a

member of a unique community of scholars—a community that represents our best hope for the future,' said Nobel.

According to society president James Lewis, it is the aim of the organization to help students like Hwang build their academic successes and enhance the skills and desires to have a positive impact on the global community.

Membership in the society of scholars entitles qualified students to a variety of benefits, including scholarship opportunities, academic competitions, free events, and many others. NSHSS was formed in 2002 and has more than 530,000 members in over 160 countries.



Hwang

FSM congress confirms five deputies for overseas missions

PALIKIR, Pohnpei—The 17th Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia approved Saturday the nomination listing submitted by President Emanuel Manny Mori for the deputy chiefs of mission for the overseas posts and embassies.

During Congress' meeting with Mori at the beginning of the session, the President had stressed the urgency of securing the positions to 'maintain the stability of FSM's overseas missions and offices.'

According to the President's transmittal letter on the nominations, the nominees are the current occupants of the positions they are being nominated for and he wishes to 'retain these individuals because of their experiences...retention of these individuals in their respective posts will prove pivotal in implementing a smooth transition.'

Congress on Friday, May 27, confirmed the congressional resolutions for Mori's nominations for deputy chiefs of mis-

sion for the following posts:

- Jeem Lippwe for the Permanent Mission to the UN;
- Renster P. Andrew for the FSM Embassy in Japan; and
- Stanislaus Kensof for the FSM Embassy Fiji.

The remaining nominations for deputy chiefs of mission were confirmed during Saturday's session and they are:

- Carl D. Apis for the FSM Embassy in Beijing, China; and
- James A. Naich for the FSM Embassy in Washington, D.C.

The Committee on External Affairs noted in their report to Congress that the committee is 'mindful of the need for some continuity in the operations of the overseas diplomatic offices' and urge Congress for the immediate confirmation of the nominations to 'keep the missions operational.'

Following the confirmation of the last two nominations, Congress went into recess to resume its businesses today, May 30, 2011, at 10am. (PR)

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

May 31, 1999

Cepeda seeks CNMI-US dialog

Joining the bandwagon of opposition to the continuous attacks against the Northern Marianas, a legislator on Friday called on President Clinton to hold a mutual dialogue with island officials in efforts to bridge differences, which have harmed relations between CNMI and Washington. Rep. Frank Cepeda, chair of the House Judiciary and Governmental Operations, also denied accusations leveled against the Commonwealth by various interest groups in the mainland as well as some U.S. lawmakers. While efforts from both sides have been directed towards reforming labor and immigration problems on the island, future actions 'will be jeopardized as certain groups and individuals continue to insult and belittle the successful changes we have done to date,' he said.

NMC moves to solve Y2K woes

While federal funding to resolve the CNMI's Y2K problem is still being negotiated, the Northern Marianas College is preparing to secure a letter of credit in order to expedite its in-house purchase of software that will help it deal with the millennium bug. In a presentation Friday, NMC Programmer Frank Oliver informed the Board of Regents that the Bank of Hawaii has expressed its willingness to issue \$125,000 worth of letter of credit. The Board, however, asked NMC legal counsel Jesus Borja to look into the L.C. agreement since it will use the million-dollar endowment money of NMC as collateral. If plans will push through, the L.C. will enable the college to bring in the needed software.

May 31, 2000

Bill regulating telecoms sparks debate in House

The proposed regulatory body for the local telecommunications industry met strong opposition yesterday from some members of the House of Representatives who said that such policy would lead to more restrictions and thus hinder its growth in the Northern Marianas. Rep. David M. Apatang, who leads the opposition, warned that enacting House Bill 12-6 or the Commonwealth Telecommunications Act will mean that the islands is 'moving backwards' amid the dynamic growth of the industry worldwide. He said that although he does not object to the creation of a local commission that will oversee the sector, it should not impose additional rules and regulations that will be too restrictive for their business operations.

CPA seals power pact with US Navy

With the anticipated arrival of more United States Navy vessels into the Northern Marianas for relaxation and recreational activities, a technical agreement has been sealed with the Commonwealth Ports Authority for the installation of a major source of power at the Saipan International Harbor. Seaport Manager Tony Cabrera disclosed the agreement, which was recently reached between CPA and the U.S. Navy, paved the road for the installation of two high voltage transformers at the dock site for use by naval vessels. The original master plan for the Saipan International Harbor excludes the placement of major power sources for vessels docked at the facility, Cabrera said.

May 31, 2001

MVA targets 550K visitors in '01

Fresh from an activity-filled May, the Marianas Visitors Authority said it is optimistic about reaching its target arrival figure of 550,000 visitors for the calendar year 2001. MVA Board Chair Dave P. Sablan said although the first four months of the year saw a 1.37 percent decrease in tourists coming to the CNMI, he is confident that the numbers would pick up in the following months. Visitor arrivals for the January to April period totaled 172,877. During the same period last year 175,281 tourists came to visit the Commonwealth.

Construction firm seeks to collect debt from PSS

A Saipan-based construction firm is pressuring the Public School System to pay up what the latter allegedly owes the company based on four project contracts that the parties had entered into. Pacific Saipan Technical Contractors Inc., the plaintiff, filed through its counsel Joseph A. Arriola a civil suit against the autonomous agency alleging that the defendant failed to satisfy payments for construction work the plaintiff claims it has delivered. The plaintiff was hired by PSS to administer construction services at different public schools on Saipan. PSS legal counsel Tim Connor yesterday said PSTC failed to do the job based on the contract.

Island Snapshots



CONTRACT SIGNING

Board of Regents chair Juan Lizama signs the two-year \$80,000 contract for Dr. Sharon Hart while vice chair Elaine Orilla looks on. Hart was chosen as the new president of the Northern Marianas College during a board meeting on Thursday last week.

MONETH G. DEPOSA



Members of the public and employees of the Northern Marianas College wait for the Board of Regents' announcement Thursday afternoon on who would be the college's next president.

MONETH G. DEPOSA



SATELLITE TAGGING

Jessy Hapdei of the CNMI Department of Lands & Natural Resources applies fiberglass resin to attach a satellite tag to an adult green turtle's shell within Bird Island Marine Sanctuary, Saipan on May 25, 2011. Upon release early Wednesday morning, the turtle crawled back into the Philippine Sea with her new hardware fiberglassed to the back of her shell.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



The green turtle nicknamed "Kumiko" was satellite tagged after nesting at Bird Island Sanctuary on May 25, 2011. The turtle's name is Kumiko, in dedication and memorial to a volunteer and friend to the CNMI Sea Turtle Program who passed away after a fight with cancer on the same evening this turtle emerged to nest.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



ISLAND VISIT

U.S. Interior's Assistant Secretary for Insular Affairs Tony Babauta, third from left, is joined by Gov. Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Gov. Eloy Inos in a meeting with non-government organizations and private sector representatives last Friday to discuss education and technical assistance opportunities.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

U.S. Interior's Assistant Secretary for Insular Affairs Tony Babauta meets with officials of the Public School System, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and other local and federal officials for a briefing on the Assessment of Buildings and Classrooms, or ABC, Initiative. The initiative aims to assess the status of public schools in four U.S. territories: the CNMI, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and American Samoa.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



U.S. Interior's Assistant Secretary for Insular Affairs Tony Babauta, left, shared a light moment with Gov. Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Gov. Eloy Inos Friday. Babauta was on island to meet with CNMI officials and private sector representatives mainly on education and technical assistance opportunities. Babauta came from Guam, where he presented an initial Guam Energy Assessment Report produced by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory under the direction of the Interior's Office of Insular Affairs.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan TribuneVergara is a regular contributor to the
Saipan Tribune's Opinion Section

Memorial Day

In the movie *Titanic*, the tearjerker of a soundtrack increased sales of Kleenex, and the movie's *coup d'grace* was delivered by the slightly raspy, sweet rendition, liberally romance-doused French Canadian Celine Dion's version of *My Heart Will Go On*. The song that tugs on any heart string is sung in every karaoke corner in the world, and in China, is second only in popularity to Deng Lijun's (Teresa Tang to the West) *My Heart Represents the Moon* (*Yue liang dai biao wo de xin*). Knowledge and capability to carry the tune of both would ingratiate anyone to the affections of any of the Garapan masseuse ladies, and might even earn substantial discount on payment for services.

I have since dubbed the *Titanic* song as my *Qing Ming* song for tomb scrubbing day, observed the first week of April in memory of ancestors and relations long gone, but whose memory lingers on. Devoid of the theistic basis of its mythological metaphors, the Chinese latched on to the cruciality of human relations, posting the heart at the core of filial piety. The notion of the heart going on and on is thereby not a stranger to the Sino sentiment.

Memorial Day in the United States began as an official observance of the sacrifices that the Union and Confederate soldiers rendered during the American Civil War by the laying of flowers at Arlington Cemetery. The impulse was on reconciliation, along with the honoring of the dead, a characteristic universal in any social group. It evolved into focusing on the casualties of the World Wars until it became a day of recalling heroic and patriotic deeds in the service of the country. The Vietnam War Memorial in Washington has a traveling replica of its wall that moves around the nation dubbed as the *Wall that Heals*. It is most appropriate that a big to-do occurs this day on the Wall as more names are added to the granite, and the theme of reconciliation, which drew me to join their teachers' network, continues.

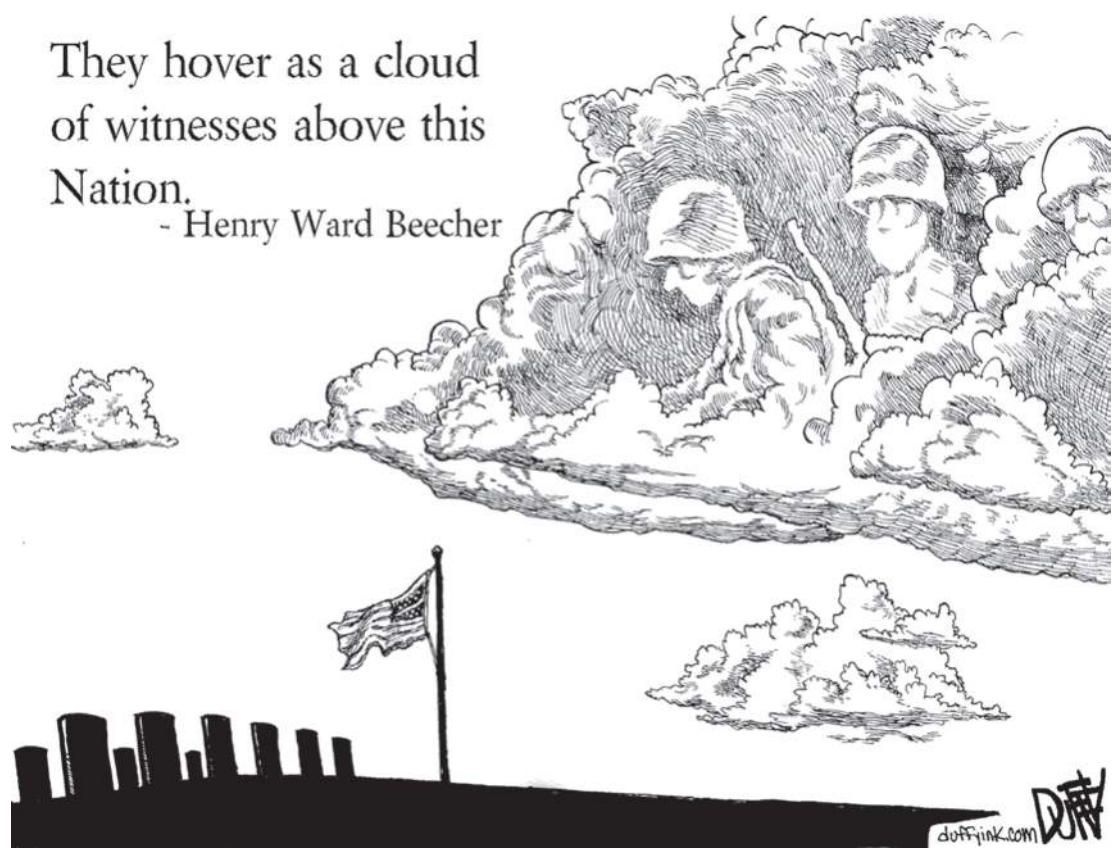
Not too long ago, on Tinian during one of the commemoration of the last world war, the veterans from the U.S. side found themselves on the same island at the same time with veterans from the Japanese side. Attempts were made to officially keep the two groups apart but it did not take long, according to our historian and marauder Don Farrell, before members of each group found each other and settled down to seriously raise the cup and the bottle to mutual *cheers/kempei!*

Perhaps, in the solemnity accorded this day, that is, before the energy engaging family-community BBQ, we might consider hosting a memorial day for all forces who gave their lives in the service of their governments, even to those who opposed it, in the spirit of the original Memorial Day of reconciliation. We dare not mention its commercial potential in the visitors' industry lest this piece be read as just another attempt to promote local tourism, but it would not hurt to have the memory of heroic deeds recalled, regardless of where it is coming from. MVA's Perry would announce the chosen heroes from each visiting group!

Indeed, as any honest grunt would concede, no one ever really goes out gung-ho to lay one's life on behalf of mother/fatherland. Only politicians talk about dying for their country, and it sometimes scandalously comes from ones who were never in the front lines while in the service, or generals with aides who carried their briefcases, or have successfully evaded service altogether.

See MEMORIAL on Next Page

They hover as a cloud
of witnesses above this
Nation.
- Henry Ward Beecher



Attitude, attitude, attitude!

There is a mistaken perception by some members of the government and by some other people in the community that businesses do not want to hire local employees. This is not true. However, there is a real problem that must be overcome.

If I could speak to each person seeking a job, I would say this:

"Dear Rejected Applicant,

"Today you came to my office applying for a job. From the look on your face as you walked in, I suspect you've been turned down before, and maybe believe that locals like you will not be hired. But I hired a local guy before you came. You saw him because he passed you in the office. What was so special about him that I hired him and not you? No, not experience. Neither of you had any. But he had a good attitude! Yes, *attitude!* He did his best to impress me and was eager to be employed. That is where he edged you out.

"He wasn't dressed in the latest fashion, but then that isn't necessary. His clothes were clean. He had a clean haircut and his hair was combed. He didn't ask to borrow a pen when he filled out the application form. He also filled the form neatly and completely. He carried his Social Security card and had other basic identification. He didn't ask, 'What's a reference?'

"He didn't bring two friends waiting for him by the soda machine. He didn't start chewing or smoked while being interviewed. He took time out to find out what we do in the company and how we operate here. He also asked what his tasks would be. I think he'll work with me like he would work with himself.

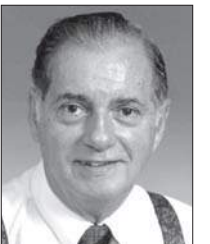
"Maybe jobs aren't plentiful right now, but there are jobs. All around you employers are looking for young men and women smart enough to go after a job in the old fashioned way. If you have even the vaguest idea of what I'm trying to say, let it show when you ask for a job. For both our sakes: *Get eager*, will you? Improve your *attitude!* Then come back and let's talk again."

As an employer of about 100 employees, both local and nonresident, I consider proper attitude one of the most important qualities in an employee. To me, and to other employers, when an employee shows a willingness to learn, that employee will succeed. Even without experience, he will acquire it in a short time if his attitude is correct, and he is willing to learn. Also his salary will increase accordingly.

Every business owner knows that the performance quality of his employees will bring success or failure to his business. The employee with the proper attitude will learn faster and perform a more professional job. As a result the more the employee knows and performs, the higher his salary—a proven fact. An experienced employee will get paid according to his ability and attitude.

Just what is attitude? Attitude is our established way of responding to people and situations based on what we have learned from our beliefs, values and assumptions we hold. Our attitude drives our behavior.

I recently saw a video on YouTube about a man named Nick Vujicic. Nick was born without arms and legs. But with a strong positive attitude he has become an author and an inspirational speaker doing tours across America. His book is titled *Nick: A Biography of a Determined Man*. Please take a few minutes to see him and hear his inspirational message. I have never seen a man with a more positive attitude before. After viewing the video, I felt grateful for all I have.

By ANTHONY PELLEGRINO
Special to the Saipan TribunePellegrino is a longtime businessman in
the CNMI and is the former president of the
Saipan Chamber of Commerce.

Google "Attitude is Attitude" and marvel at this amazing man's determination and positive attitude.

It should be remembered that even some nonresident workers have bad attitudes and disguise them until found out. In general, attitude affects all of us whether owners, manager, employees. How is ours where we work? Or even in our personal life? Many local resident workers may be inexperienced, making it difficult to pay them a higher starting wage, but if they are willing to learn, their wages will increase. Believe it or not, the problem does not lie in the starting wage that is offered. A wage is only a starting point. Attitude makes the difference!

Here are 10 things that a positive attitude in the workplace can do.

1. Career success: Who is more likely to get promoted? Those who think positively and get results, or those who constantly complain and say something isn't their job?

2. Stress reduction: Change your perception to something more positive and the stressful feeling will go away. Instead of problems, see challenges. Ask yourself how can you make something easier or more enjoyable.

3. Less sick days and more productivity: This is a side benefit of stress reduction.

4. Improve customer relations and better productivity: customers would rather deal with someone positive. Better sales performance and better productivity is one of the surest ways to improve yourself in the company.

5. Become a better leader: Everyone is watching you and will be affected by your attitude. Your actions speak louder than your words.

6. Improve the attitude of other employees or those who report to you. Positive attitudes are infectious. Even if you are an employee you can create a positive attitude in the workplace.

7. Improve teamwork: Teams are much more effective when members are united in overcoming challenges.

8. Improve motivation for yourself and others: If you have a positive attitude about achieving goals and success in general, you will be much more motivated to take action.

9. Improve decision-making and overcome challenges: See challenges as opportunities to grow and become better.

10. Improve personal relations: People like positive people. They're automatically drawn to a pleasant and upbeat demeanor.

The above suggestions will do you little good if you just gloss over them. Good attitude is a never ending process. Regardless of age, one never achieves perfection. But it is worth the goal.

One of the best ways to find out what kind of attitude we possess is to sit in front of the mirror and talk to the reflection we see. Yes, talk

See ATTITUDE on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Mafañagon Halu’un Tanu

I Attikulu Dose hafañagu milagrosu na halu’un tanu. Era, guiya este ma-establesen un’ bisnis ni fumafahan atkilon tanu (55 años) ginen dueñon tanu praihet. Man-halom ya masañgane i dueñun tanu na para u fahan i teteñnan gi hilu kontratan atkilon.

Ma-ofrese i dueñu dididi’ mas salape’ lau gi hilu kondision na ‘an magpu i primet kontrata, inyon niha (i halu’un tanu) i tanu in-teramente. I gai tanu mampos sumen chatsaga ya memegaiña besis ‘nai ha aksepta este na ineffrese. Lau i kombene ni kuantu na salamañkamu nu i Attikulu Dose. Estague afañielos masusesede gi presente na areglon Attikulu Dose.

Hafa masusede gi hilu este na inefresen halu’un tanu kontra mis- mu tautauta?

Kumu lamesñgon i dueñu, siña ha rinueba talu i atkilon tano’ña yan laguguan na kontrata. Sumaga gi naan’ña i tanu ya i famaguoña bumenefisia dispues de esta taigue-gue’ gi tanu. Alakuanta, ha poluye famaguon famaguoña fina’ fiñkas para u sosoda’ dispues.

Na pinite para talilie’ na mismu tautau-ta muna fan lalamen i man- gai tanu pot ambenteria pot matuñgu na megai man-mamadese. Mahasñgon ma fatta kantidan salape’ para umabira ensegidas i dueñun tanu hinassoña piot guine gi didog na tiempon eskases. Isau este na chochu’ i para un’ atrebi fumababa i prohimu pot mamatmos gi halom tasin chinatsaga.

Siempre ha’ i tautau u basnag gi tentasion papa’ este na inefrese pot para u reskata familiaña piot pagu na tiempu. Lau ti hoñgiyon i chechu’ mahasñgon gi mamadedese pot ni mona ni tatte.

Lau este siha na kontrata ti mañgombeni maseha tautauta chumogue. Siempre u anog klaru i malumot gi hilu este na che’chu’ kabron.

Didog Na Pinadese

Mientras sige hulu’ i presiun gaselina yan otru ne-

sessidat tat kumu neñkano’, menos ‘sino mas marib- aha pottanmonedan familia gi mismu sakudida. Ti hu fatitinas este na asunto sa’ magahet hu huñgog klaru ginen ‘nos kuantos familia guine gi mapos na semana.

“Taimanoyu’ machochu’ ‘nai kahulu i presiun gaselina ya gi mismu tiempu ma-utot oran chochu’ 16 oras gi kada pagamientu”.

“Chadegña kahulu’ nesessidat familia ya gi mismu tiempu mana’ para i asaguahu machochu’ gi hotel”.

Mafattu gi hinasoghu i familia siha giya Luta yan Tinian ‘nai doble mas presiun nesessidat ke Saipan. Haf’ taimanu man-liheñg gi halom este na mattiru siha. Huñgan, guaha man-guagualu yan ma-ususune offisian peska para mantension familia.

Makat afañie’los na tanu’ esklabu ‘nai man-gaige hit na biahe, tanu esklabon sumen chafleg na ekono- mia ni basnag mediu lokue pot diskuidon i man-ma’gasta. Gi finu’ un’ saina ‘nai ha sasañgan pot finatai, “Kulan un’ sake gi pueñge, mattu ha chule’ todú i malago’ña ‘nai man-mafoñg hit gi maigo’ta”. Parehu yan kinahulu’ presiun gaselina yan nesessidat siha, sige ha’ hulu’ kada man-deskansa hit ‘an pueñge. De dios na makat kontrariu este na tiempon hai’las.

■ ■ ■ ■

Esta mananayuyotyú’ ayudu ginen hilu para todus. Hombre este i ti mafattu mamakatña esta ha’ megai dumibibina hafa mohon mas na aminasu mamamaila’. Lau i masusesede mafattu gi todú elmundu kada sien (100) años. Hu tatayuyot i Saina na u bira hulu’ i hagas tumunog na hagian linala’ pot satbasion todus piot i miyon yan mi- yon na tautau ni hagas pumadese ñalañg. Gai konfiansayu’ na esta i puntan hagua ha danche i pisun sanpapa’ ya sige adumididi’ hulu.

Mientras tantos, man-gaddon hit gi halom sumen homhum na pueñge ‘nai kulan kakaiha’ mage manana. Siempre u fattu nuebu

By **JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.**
Special to the Saipan Tribune



John S. DelRosario is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune’s Opinion Section

na haane ‘nai u mas libre i tautau somoda’ haaniña. Dipotsihe ha’ i tafapoposgue pagu: Homhum antes de Manana! I asunto gaige esta gi eskaleran disposision i Saina, maila’ tapan mangagau satbasionta.

MEMORIAL

From Page 10

We should all now be familiar with Joseph Campbell’s bestsell- ing comparative mythology account of *The Hero with a Thousand Faces*, leading us to note that being heroic is a serendipitous conflu- ence between genetics, being at the right place at the right time, and having a good story and symbol maker. Memorial Day could very well be the celebration of the hero and heroic impulse in all of us, highlighting those who have publicly and dramatically done so, and encouraging the many to play the role Mother Nature has endowed gifts and talents on everyone to begin with.

Then there is the BBQ, Papa’s domain with the irreplaceable logis- tics of Mama. Not too long ago, we pointed that imperial countries use “fatherland,” while “motherland” is used by the pacific peoples of Asia. We know in pedagogy that “image determines behavior.” My Chinese students claim that when they make a mistake before fa- ther, the male figurehead slaps and berates them; before mother, they are hugged, cried with, and forgiven. “Change image means change of behavior,” the teacher in us knows. Traditionally matrilineal Mi- cronnesia became patriarchal to conform to colonials, but perhaps, it is time to reclaim indigenous heritage. The Memorial Day BBQ is as good a place to start as any.

What would Memorial Day of heroic deeds look like if we stop glorifying war and start memorializing acts of peace? Is patriotism a monopoly of those in the armed services, or a choice made even by ordinary citizen in their covenant with governments? “Civics” de- scribes political order and social conscience. Might it not be time to start including civic heroes in our Memorial Day?

Enjoy the macho’s brushing of Mama’s sauce on to the spare ribs. Happy Memorial Day!

ATTITUDE

From Page 10

to it as though we were speaking to another person. Notice the look on our face. Is it sincere? Listen to the words that come out of our mouth. Are they pleasant or harsh? In general, do we like what we see?

Until we accept this fact, the problem will continue unresolved and the finger pointing will continue. Before we criticize busi- nesses for not hiring local employees, ask the rejected employee what is his attitude toward work? The proper attitude always gets the work.

The longer I live, the more I realize the impact of attitude in life. Attitude to me is more important than facts. We cannot change our past. We cannot change the fact that people will act in a certain way. We cannot change the inevitable. The only thing we can do is play on the strength we have, and that is our attitude. I am convinced that life is 10 percent what happens to me and 90 percent how I react to it. As so it is with each of us. We are in charge of our attitude. The buck stops with us.

Think what would happen to our country if we and the govern- ment changed our attitude from a negative to a positive? There would be no stopping us. But until then...!

“I had the blues because I had no shoes until upon the street, I met a man who had no feet.”—An ancient Persian saying.

“Attitude is a little thing that makes a big difference.”—Win- ston Churchill

“It’s so hard when I have to, and so easy when I want to.”— Annie Gottlier.

If you agree with me, please cut out this article and pass it on to someone looking for a job. It may help them. Have a nice day!

Letter to the Editor

More changes to Saipan zoning law

Massive changes being proposed to Saipan’s zoning law are the sub- ject of hearings scheduled to be held in various villages throughout the island over the next two weeks (June 6-14). To begin with, 16 amend- ments to specific areas of the present zoning map would change 10 designated “rural village” areas to “village commercial” status, nine to “mixed commercial” status, and five to “industrial” status. The changes are proposed for areas throughout Saipan, from Capital Hill and Navy Hill to Oleia, Northern Marianas College, and Koblerville.

Another amendment would make all land within 600 feet of ma- jor paved roads “mixed commercial.” Most of San Roque village would be zoned “Village Commercial.”

The changes are extensive, and seemingly all go in the same di- rection—allowing commercial activity anywhere anyone wants it to happen.

The changes are as proposed in Rep. Stanley T. Torres’ House Lo- cal Bill 17-26, the most recent version of which can be found at the zoning board Web page, www.zoning.gov.mp. Maps of the affected areas are also available at the zoning board Web page.

Hearings will be held at 6pm at the Garapan Elementary School on June 6, at the Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School on June 7, at the Kagman Community Center on June 8, at the Zoning Board office, Dandan on June 9, at San Vicente School on June 10, at the

Dandan Elementary School June 13, and at the Koblerville Youth Center on June 14.

A complete list of hearings together with the areas to be discussed at each hearing was printed on page 2 of the Thursday, May 26, is- sue of the *Saipan Tribune*. A schedule of hearings, which identifies areas covered only by reference to Torres’ bill, appears on the zon- ing Web page.

In addition, more than 100 changes are proposed to the “Table of Permitted, Conditional and Temporary Uses”—changes that would, in effect, wipe out the “Rural” designation altogether. The Zoning Board has scheduled a separate hearing on this amendment for June 28, at 6pm, at the Zoning Board office in Dandan.

Saipan’s major attraction as a tourist destiny has been its peace, quiet, serenity. Peace and quiet in its villages is equally important to local residents. Torres’ proposed changes would destroy all that. Any and all who care about the future of Saipan are urged to show up at the hearing nearest their village, and to speak up!

More information is available at www.zoning.gov.mp or from the Zoning Board office, telephone 234-9663.

Ruth L. Tighe
Tanapag, Saipan

‘Garapatas’

I am writing in response to Frank Stewart’s letter of May 27th, in which Mr. Stewart complained about, among other things, a word I used in my testimony at the Marpi power poles hearing.

First, I wonder whether Mr. Stewart has ever interacted with the native people of this island, or whether he just watches us from afar, like zoo animals? Has he ever been to a fiesta, a barbecue, even a funeral, or does he only drive by and make remarks about lazy betel nut chewers? If Mr. Stewart understood a bit of the Chamorro culture, he would know that terms like *garapatas* can be used with- out offense. And if he understood a little bit about languages and cultures in general, he would know that an innocuous word in one language and culture can sound unduly harsh in another language and culture. If Mr. Stewart barbecued with me and my family, he would know that *garapatas* is not offensive.

But maybe he doesn’t hang out with us native people because, in his words, they “all become losers.” Really? All people of a certain race are losers? If Mr. Stewart were back in the mainland

U.S., that would be called hate speech. And Mr. Stewart says that the reason we become losers is that we don’t listen to outsiders’ advice. What makes his advice worth listening to? Is it his Anglo last name? It is most likely not his accomplishments or expertise, as most outsiders who come to Saipan are not exactly at the top of their fields—but they come here thinking they are God’s gift to Saipan. If Mr. Stewart and his friends spent more time listen- ing and less time talking, perhaps they would understand that we native people also have a culture and that it’s not any worse than the outsiders’ culture.






There is a word for someone who believes they are part of a small, unappreciated group that is persecuted because they know a special truth: that word is “insane.” Isn’t it better to be called *garapatas*?

Diego C. Blanco
As Lito, Saipan

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
 Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	 Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	 Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	 Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	 Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87° ▼77	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲87 ▼81
Palau	Rain	▲84 ▼78
Yap	Showers	▲86 ▼77
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲82 ▼76
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲85 ▼77
Kosrae	Rain	▲87 ▼80
Majuro	Showers	▲84 ▼78

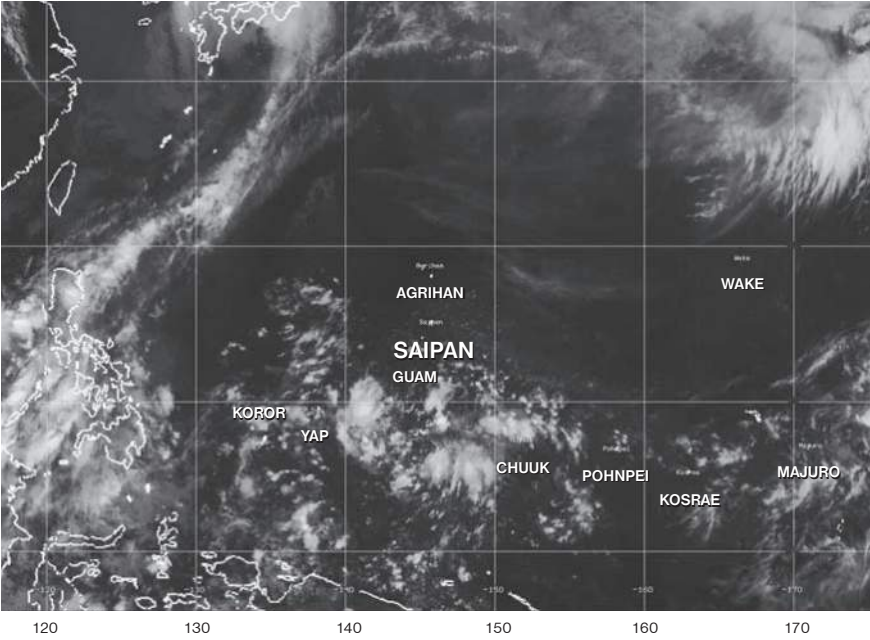
Around The Globe

Auckland	Sunny	▲61 ▼53
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	▲91 ▼66
Hong Kong	Sunny	▲84 ▼77
Honolulu	Sunny	▲85 ▼74
London	Showers	▲64 ▼50
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲72 ▼58
Manila	Thundershowers	▲89 ▼79
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲61 ▼43
Miami	Thundershowers	▲85 ▼75
New York	Mostly Sunny	▲82 ▼68
Osaka	Thundershowers	▲76 ▼64
Paris	Thunderstorms	▲79 ▼50
Pusan	Windy	▲70 ▼59
Rome	Sunny	▲79 ▼60
Salem	Showers	▲61 ▼48
San Francisco	Sunny	▲58 ▼51
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲77 ▼60
Tokyo	Showers	▲73 ▼62
Washington, DC	Sunny	▲87 ▼71

Tides

Saipan Harbor				
5:02 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet	
12:25 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.0 Feet	
7:18 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.7 Feet	

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, SUNDAY, MAY 29, 2011
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Converging surface winds are coupling with divergent upper-level winds to produce scattered showers and a few thunderstorms south of Koror and Yap within 100 miles of a line from 6N130E to 2N134E to 5N139E to 8N140E. A surface trough reaches northward from EQ148E through a weak circulation centered southwest of Chuuk at 6N148E to end at 12N150E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms associated with the trough and circulation are occurring over Chuuk within 90 miles of a line from 8N143E to 5N146E to 6N150E to 11N156E. Converging trade winds are teaming with upper-level divergence to create a large area of scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms over the Marshall Islands and Butaritari Atoll within 240 miles of a line from 2N165E to 8N180.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:46 AM	6:43 PM
Tuesday	5:46 AM	6:43 PM
Wednesday	5:46 AM	6:44 PM
Thursday	5:46 AM	6:44 PM
Friday	5:46 AM	6:44 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	3:26 AM	4:28 PM
Tuesday	4:09 AM	5:19 PM
Wednesday	4:55 AM	6:13 PM
Thursday	5:45 AM	7:07 PM
Friday	6:39 AM	8:00 PM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

- PICTURES**
 - **ISLAND SNAPSHOTS**
Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
 - **BIRTHDAY GREETINGS**
A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
 - **BUSINESS**
Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
 - **SAMUT SARI**
Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
 - **TRAVELOGUE**
Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.
- ANNOUNCEMENTS**
 - **COMMUNITY BRIEFS**

- Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- **CAMPUS BULLETIN**
Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

- For pictures:**
 - Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
 - Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
 - Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
 - Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
 - For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.
- For announcements:**
 - Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

- the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 10, 2011

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM				GUAM-SAIPAN			
C09317	4:25am	5:15am	Daily	C09316	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
C09313	7:55am	8:45am	3, 6	C09596	6:35am	7:25am	3, 6
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7	C09596	7:00am	7:50am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09601	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7	C09600	10:05am	10:55am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09603	3:05pm	3:55pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7	5K389	1:35pm	2:25pm	1, 4, 6
5K382	6:00pm	6:50pm	2, 5, 7	C09602	1:40pm	2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09605	6:30pm	7:20pm	Daily	C09604	5:10pm	6:00pm	Daily
C09599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily	C09606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL287	6:00am	8:45am	Daily	DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:20pm	Daily	DL288	8:05pm	12:35am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
0Z608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5	0Z607	9:00pm	2:20am+1	4, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
0Z606	2:20am	6:00am	1	0Z603	9:00am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7
0Z606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	0Z605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
0Z604	3:30pm	7:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7	0Z605	8:10pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
MU590	4:30am	7:20am	2, 6	MU589	8:50pm	3:30am+1	1, 5
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 5	3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	4, 7
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 4	3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
0Z606/701	2:20am	11:25am	1 via ICN	0Z704/603	12:10am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7
0Z606/701	2:50am	11:25am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN				via ICN
C09317/891	4:25am	9:45am	3, 6 via GUM	DL172/288	7:45am	12:35am+1	Daily via NRT
DL287/173	6:00am	10:15pm	Daily via NRT	C0890/9606	10:55am	8:50pm	3, 6 via GUM
				0Z702/605	12:45pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
C09313/933	7:55am	8:40pm	3, 6 via GUM	0Z702/605	12:45pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
C09603/933	3:05pm	8:40pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7 via GUM	C0892/9596	9:55pm	7:50am+1	2, 5 via GUM-Palau
C09603/893	3:05pm	10:10pm	2, 5 via GUM-Palau	PR110/C09596	10:15pm	7:25am+1	6 via GUM
0Z604/703	3:20pm	11:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7 ICN	PR110/C09596	10:15pm	7:50am+1	1, 2, 4, 7 via GUM
0Z604/715	3:20pm	11:30pm	7	C0934/9596	10:55pm	7:50am+1	1, 4, 7 via GUM
C09599/PR111	9:30pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM	C0934/9596	10:55pm	7:25am+1	3, 6 via GUM
				C0934/9596	11:25pm	7:50am+1	2, 5 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG				HONG KONG-SAIPAN			
0Z606/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN	0Z724/603	12:30am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7
0Z606/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN				via ICN
C09603/909	3:05pm	9:25pm	1, 5 via GUM	0Z750/603	1:00am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7
5K168	3:25pm	6:35pm	1, 4, 6				via ICN
0Z604/749	3:30pm	11:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN	5K169	9:55am	5:00pm	2, 5, 7
				0Z722/605	1:25pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
				0Z722/605	1:25pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
				C0910/9596	10:30pm	7:50am+1	1, 5 via GUM
Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 5K: FlyGuam; 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The <i>Saipan Tribune</i> is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)							

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota				FRE 113	11:40	11:50	Daily
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
Guam-Rota				FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily	FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
FRE 300	17:50	18:20	Daily				
Saipan-Rota				Tinian-Saipan			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 400	10:20	10:45	Daily	FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
Saipan-Rota				FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
Saipan-Tinian				FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily	FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily	FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily	FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily				



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Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Business

Gas tanks are draining family budgets

By JONATHAN FAHEY
AP ENERGY WRITER

NEW YORK (AP)—There's less money this summer for hotel rooms, surfboards and bathing suits. It's all going into the gas tank.

High prices at the pump are putting a squeeze on the family budget as the traditional summer driving season begins. For every \$10 the typical household earns before taxes, almost a full dollar now goes toward gas, a 40 percent bigger bite than normal.

Households spent an average of \$369 on gas last month. In April 2009, they spent just \$201. Families now spend more filling up than they spend on cars, clothes or recreation. Last year, they spent less on gasoline than each of those things.

Jeffrey Wayman of Cape Charles, Va., spent Friday riding his motorcycle to North Carolina's Outer Banks, a day trip with his wife. They decided to eat snacks in a gas station parking lot rather than

buy lunch because rising fuel prices have eaten so much into their budget over the past year that they can't ride as frequently as they would like.

"We used to do it a lot more, but not as much now," he said. "You have to cut back when you have a \$480 gas bill a month."

Alex Martinez, a senior at Arcadia High School outside Los Angeles, said his family's trips to San Francisco, which they usually take once or more a year, are on hold. As he stopped at a gas station to put \$5 of fuel in his car - not much more than a gallon - he said the high prices are crimping social life for him and his friends.

"We're always worrying, 'How are we going to get home. We've got less than half a gallon left,'" Martinez said. "We definitely can't go out as much, and we can't go as far."

As Memorial Day weekend opens, the nationwide average for a gallon of unleaded is \$3.81. Though prices have drifted lower in recent days, analysts expect average price for 2011

to come in higher than the previous record, \$3.25 in 2008. A year ago, gas cost \$2.76.

The squeeze is happening at a time when most people aren't getting raises, even as the economy recovers.

"These increases are not something consumers can shrug off," says James Hamilton, an economics professor at the University of California, San Diego, who studies gas prices. "It's a key part of the family budget."

The ramifications are far-

reaching for an economy still struggling to gain momentum two years into a recovery. Economists say the gas squeeze makes people feel poorer than they actually are.

They're showing it by limiting spending far beyond the gas station. Wal-Mart recently blamed high gas prices for an eighth straight quarter of lower sales in the U.S. Target said gas prices were hurting sales of clothes.

Every 50-cent jump in the cost of gasoline takes \$70 bil-

lion out of the U.S. economy over the course of a year, Hamilton says. That's about one half of one percent of gross domestic product.

The Commerce Department reported Friday that consumer spending rose just 0.1 percent in April, excluding the extra money spent on more expensive gas and food, while wages stayed flat for the second straight month.

Mike Nason, a marketing consultant from Laguna Niguel, Calif., says he's clipping coupons to save money for gas and cutting back wherever else he

can. His daughter Chandler, 17, recently settled for a prom dress that cost \$170 instead of asking her parents to spend \$400 for another that caught her eye.

"In prior years we would have spent more money on the dress, but money has become a big object," he says.

The tourism industry is bracing for an uncertain summer. AAA predicts the typical family will spend \$692 on its vacation, down 14 percent from \$809 last year. Many of those surveyed said they are planning shorter trips and expect to pinch pennies when they arrive.

Touching the ceiling

US hits debt limit, takes actions to postpone a default

By JIM PUZZANGHERA
LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON—With the federal government hitting its \$14.3 billion debt limit, Treasury officials have started a complex fiscal juggling act to postpone the date when the government can no longer pay its bills.

But those accounting tricks, such as tapping two federal employees pension funds for loans, would buy only 11 more weeks for the White House and lawmakers to strike a deal to increase the debt ceiling.

On Aug. 2, the juggling act would be over, Obama administration officials said.

That would force the U.S., for the first time, to begin defaulting on interest payments owed to holders of government securities and trigger a sort of slow-motion partial government shutdown in which Washington would stop paying employees, contractors and beneficiaries of Social Security and other programs.

"It's a high-wire act," Rep. Peter Welch, D-Vt., said of the measures initiated by Treasury Secretary Timothy F. Geithner to postpone the effect of the U.S. reaching its debt limit.

"And when he runs out on flexibility and we miss that first payment and the market smashes us, it will be very difficult to put the genie back in

the bottle."

President Barack Obama and congressional Republicans are sharply at odds over major spending cuts to reduce the deficit. Republican leaders and a handful of Democrats have demanded such cuts as a condition for raising the debt ceiling, which Congress has never before failed to increase.

Amid the stalemate, the U.S. reached the ceiling Monday after the Treasury issued about \$72 billion in securities it had auctioned off last week. With the date looming, Geithner already had started employing "extraordinary measures" to continue to allow the government to borrow.

Those steps include suspending investments in federal pension funds and in a currency exchange rate fund. The moves won't directly affect people yet, though such maneuvers in the past have led to financial costs to taxpayers.

For example, the Government Accountability Office estimated that a seven-day delay in an auction of two-year securities during a debt-ceiling impasse in 2002 caused the Treasury to pay \$19 billion in additional interest on them each year.

On May 6, the Treasury stopped issuing special securities used by state and local governments to manage their expenses on tax-exempt bonds.

And on Monday, Geithner wrote to each member of Congress informing them of two additional measures.

He suspended the issuance of new debt for the Civil Service Retirement and Disability Fund, allowing the Treasury to start cashing in some of the securities held by the fund. Geithner also suspended the daily reinvestment of Treasury securities related to the Federal Employees' Retirement System Thrift Savings Plan.

Both funds will be made whole if the debt limit is increased, and the moves will not affect federal retirees and employees, he said.

"Each of these actions has been taken in the past by my predecessors during previous debt limit impasses," Geithner told lawmakers.

But he urged them to take "timely action to increase the debt limit in order to protect the full faith and credit of the United States and avoid catastrophic economic consequences for citizens."

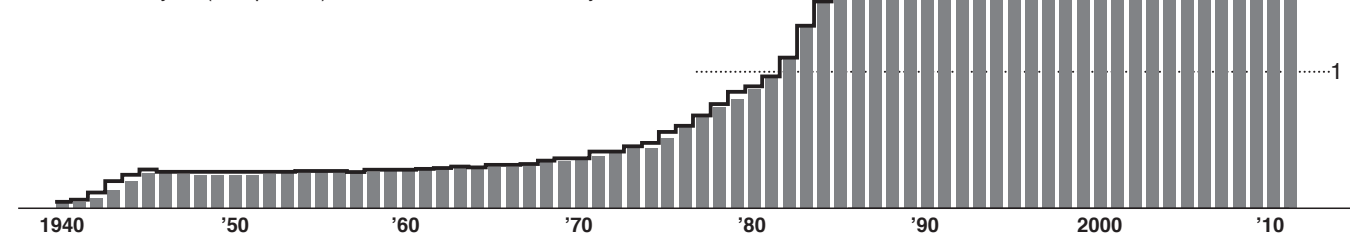
The United States has never defaulted on its payments, and Congress has voted to raise the legal limit on federal borrowing 75 times since 1962. Without the ability to continue to borrow, the Treasury would not have enough money to pay the government's bills.

Federal debt at the limit

The federal government can borrow only as much money as is allowed under a debt limit set by Congress. Recent deficit spending and a drop in tax revenue as a result of tax cuts and the recession have led to a dramatic increase in the debt.

■ **National debt subject to debt limit**
Amount at end of each fiscal year (except 2011)

■ **Debt limit**
At end of each fiscal year



Source: U.S. Department of the Treasury, White House Office of Management and Budget
Graphic: Andrew Countryman, Adam Zoll And Phil Geib, Chicago Tribune

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AP

Kenny Eley fuels his car with his daughter Kenisha, 4, as they prepare for the Memorial Day weekend in Richmond, Va., Friday, May 27, 2011.



BUSINESS BRIEFS

Lockheed Martin hit by cyber attack

WASHINGTON (AP)—Hackers launched a "significant and tenacious" cyber attack on Lockheed Martin, a major defense contractor holding highly sensitive information, but its secrets remained safe, the company said Saturday. Lockheed Martin, the Department of Homeland Security and the Pentagon confirmed that the contractor's information systems had come under attack. Lt. Col. April Cunningham, speaking for the Defense Department, said the impact on the Pentagon "is minimal and we don't expect any adverse effect." Chris Ortman, Homeland Security spokesman, said his agency and the Pentagon were working with the company to determine the breadth of the attack and "provide recommendations to mitigate further risk."

UNICEF discloses vaccine prices for 1st time

UNICEF is for the first time publicizing what drugmakers charge it for vaccines, as the world's biggest buyer of lifesaving immunizations aims to spark price competition in the face of rising costs. On Friday, UNICEF posted on its website the actual prices that it has paid individual drugmakers for 16 vaccines purchased over the last decade. It's a move that a few Western pharmaceutical companies don't support. Novartis AG and Merck & Co., which only sells one of its many children's vaccines to UNICEF, both declined to have their prices published. UNICEF last year spent \$757 million to provide 2.5 billion doses of vaccines to 99 countries, reaching an estimated 58 percent of the world's children.

Nation

Joplin official lowers tornado death toll to 139

By NOMAAN MERCHANT
ASSOCIATED PRESS

JOPLIN, Mo. (AP)—The numbers look increasingly bleak for families hoping for the best after

a monster tornado that devastated the town of Joplin, as the city has raised the death toll to at least 139 and state officials say 100 people are still missing.

Thousands more people far beyond

Joplin had been waiting for good news about a teen believed to have been ejected or sucked from his vehicle on the way home from graduation. Several social-networking efforts specifically

focused on finding information about Will Norton.

But his family says he, too, is among the dead—found in a pond near where his truck was located.

“At least we know that he wasn’t out there suffering,” his aunt Tracey Presslor said, holding a framed portrait of her 18-year-old nephew at a news conference. “Knowing that he was gone right away was really a blessing for us.”

Joplin City Manager Mark Rohr said Saturday during a news conference that the death toll rose by three to at least 142, but later revised that figure down to 139 without elaboration.

Mike O’Connell, a spokesman for the Missouri Department of Public Safety, told The

Associated Press on Saturday that he could not confirm the city’s updated death toll number. He said the state of Missouri currently places the death toll at 126, saying they have no reason to raise that number.

State officials say there are 142 sets of human remains at the morgue handling those killed by the storm and some could be from the same victim.

If the death toll does stand at 139, it would place this year’s tornado death toll at 520 and make 2011 the deadliest year for tornadoes since 1950. Until now, the highest recorded death toll by the National Weather Service in a single year was 519 in 1953. There were deadlier storms before 1950, but those counts were based on estimates

and not on precise figures.

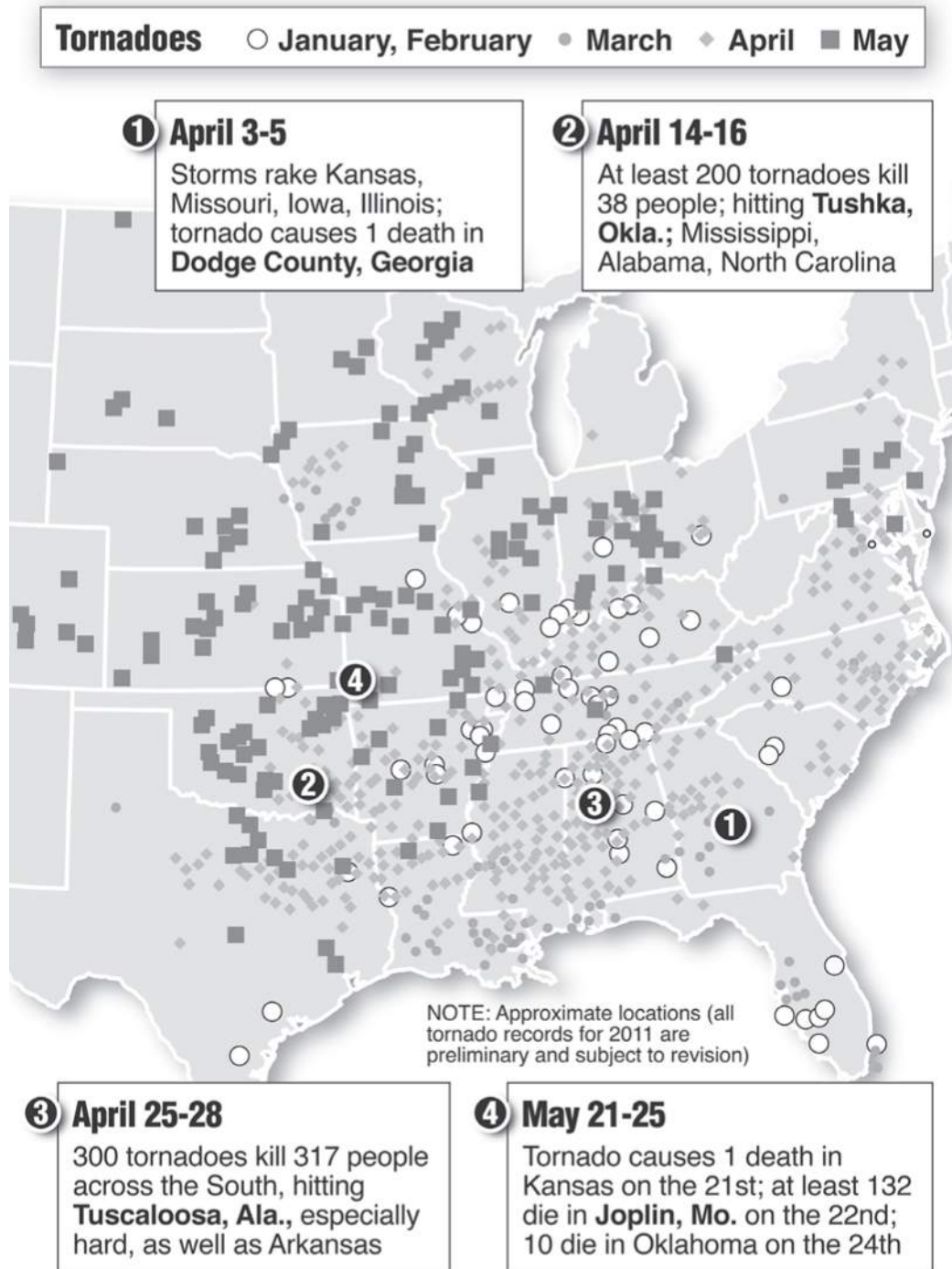
On Saturday night, the Department of Public Safety made public a list of 73 people who had been confirmed dead and whose next of kin had been notified.

The tornado—an EF-5 packing 200 mph winds—also injured more than 900 people. Tallying and identifying the dead and the missing has proven a complex, delicate and sometimes confusing exercise for both authorities and loved ones.

Missouri officials said Saturday that the number of people unaccounted for stands at 100. The Missouri Department of Public Safety said that within that number, nine people have been reported dead by their families, but state officials are working to confirm those.

Whirlwind of 2011 tornadoes

This year has seen a ballooning trend of tornadoes counted in preliminary local storm reports sent to the national Storm Prediction Center. This map reviews phases of tornado activity so far this year by location and date.

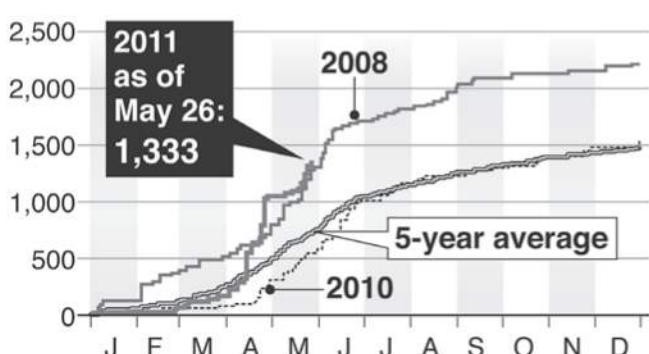


An active season so far

The tally of tornadoes so far this year is still preliminary, but the trend suggests a very active year compared to a recent five-year average.

2011 tornado tally compared with ...

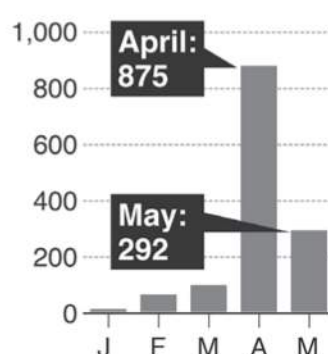
— 2008 — 2010 — 5-year average (2005-10)



Source: National Weather Service, Storm Prediction Center, AP
Graphic: Robert Dorrell

Twisters by month

Through May 26



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ACROSS THE NATION

2 dead, several injured in Wash. state bus crash

CLE ELUM, Wash. (AP)—A tour bus carrying fans home from a soccer game crashed into a pickup parked on the shoulder of Interstate 90 in central Washington Saturday evening, causing a three-vehicle crash that killed two people and injured up to 15 others, authorities said. The bus rolled onto its side after careening into the truck, Lt. Scott Martin of the Washington State Patrol said. Moments later a passenger vehicle veered to avoid the accident and crashed in the center median. “The bus lost control and struck the pickup on the shoulder,” Martin told the Associated Press. A man and a woman on the bus were killed and an occupant in one of the vehicles was seriously injured and airlifted to a hospital, he said.

Delta jet has rough landing in Atlanta; 4 hurt

ATLANTA (AP)—The landing gear of a Delta Air Lines jet apparently caught fire during a rough landing Saturday afternoon at Atlanta’s main airport, but the flight’s approximately 50 passengers and crew were evacuated safely, authorities said. Four people suffered minor injuries that did not require hospitalization, Atlanta city fire officials said. Passengers were evacuated through the rear stairs. Firefighters quickly extinguished the fire with foam spray. There were conflicting accounts as to what caused the trouble for Delta flight 2284 from Pittsburgh, which landed at Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport at around 4:18 p.m. Federal Aviation Administration spokesman Kathleen Bergen said the MD-88 jet suffered either a blown tire, a locked-up brake or perhaps both, which caused a fire.

Women plunge from window of Atlanta hotel; 1 dead

ATLANTA (AP)—A model celebrating her birthday died and another woman was critically injured when they plunged from a 10th-story window of a luxury Atlanta hotel early Saturday morning, investigators said. Witnesses told police that 30-year-old LaShawna Threatt and a second woman were “play wrestling” in a room at the W Midtown Hotel around 3:15 a.m. when they crashed into a window and fell four or five stories onto a slanted glass ceiling above a sunroom. Rescuers found Threatt, the mother of a 15-year-old daughter, dead on the sunroom roof. The second woman, whom police would not identify, tumbled off that same roof and fell onto an outdoor patio outside the hotel. She was taken to Grady Hospital with multiple broken bones and other injuries and listed in critical condition Saturday evening. Friends say Threatt was the best friend of the injured woman.

Deploying soldier has Ky. hospital wedding

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP)—A soldier preparing to deploy to Iraq wanted to get married before he left, but his pregnant fiancée was ordered to stay on bed rest at a Kentucky hospital. So Pvt. Shawn Wentworth and Jennifer Paddock held the wedding on Saturday at Norton Suburban Hospital in Louisville. The infantryman is scheduled to leave for Iraq on Sunday. The couple wanted to get married in May, but about 23 weeks into a difficult pregnancy, Paddock’s doctor ordered her to stay in the hospital on bed rest. Paddock told The Courier-Journal that a hospital chaplain mentioned getting married at the hospital and they liked the idea. Workers

decorated with balloons, as well as white table cloth and paper bells. The couple celebrated the brief ceremony with a toast of sparkling grape juice.

Texas deputy gunned down at traffic light

SAN ANTONIO (AP)—Authorities in south-central Texas say a veteran sheriff’s deputy was shot and killed while waiting at a traffic light in his patrol vehicle. Bexar County Sgt. Kenneth Vann was waiting at an intersection early Saturday when someone in another vehicle pulled up next to his marked cruiser and opened fire through Vann’s front passenger side window. Chief Deputy Sheriff Manuel Longoria called it a “senseless” attack. He told the San Antonio Express-News that Vann was struck by a number of bullets and died at the scene. Investigators don’t have a motive for the attack. No arrests have been reported. Vann had been on the force for 24 1/2 years and was a patrol supervisor. His wife is also a sergeant with the sheriff’s office.

NC chemical plant blaze forces evacuations

HUDSON, N.C. (AP)—An explosion at a North Carolina chemical plant set off a multiple-alarm fire Saturday, sending thick black smoke into the air and forcing the evacuation of residents within two miles. Firefighters in the town of Hudson responded to the explosion at the Chemical Coatings, Inc. plant in Caldwell County at around 3 p.m. Saturday, according to Jessica Carter, a county emergency spokeswoman. Other fire and emergency crews were then quickly dispatched. The plant is closed weekends, Carter said, and no one is believed to have been inside when the explosion happened.

Asia

Suicide bomber strikes at top NATO, Afghan leaders

By JON GAMBRELL and RAHIM FAIEZ
ASSOCIATED PRESS

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—A Taliban suicide bomber wearing a police uniform blew himself up inside a heavily guarded compound Saturday as top Afghan and international officials left a meeting, killing two senior Afghan police commanders and wounding the German general who commands coalition troops in northern Afghanistan.

Two German soldiers and two other Afghans were also killed in the blast, the latest in an insurgent spring offensive. It came just weeks before a planned drawdown of U.S. troops begins this summer.

The bomber detonated his explosives-laden vest inside the governor's complex in Takhar province, where high-ranking Afghan officials were meeting with members of the international coalition, said Faiz Mohammad Tawhedi, a spokesman for the governor.

"What we know is the guy who carried out the attack had a police uniform on," Tawhedi said. "How he entered the meeting room and why he was not searched, we don't know."

Among the dead was Gen.



Afghan security stand at the site where a suicide bomber blew himself up inside the provincial governor's compound in Taloqan, Takhar province, north of Kabul, Afghanistan, Saturday, May 28, 2011.

Daud Daud, regional police commander in northern Afghanistan, according to the provincial health director, Dr. Has-

sain Basech.

Daud was a former deputy interior minister for counternarcotics and a former bodyguard

of Ahmad Shah Massoud, the charismatic Tajik leader who commanded the Northern Alliance and died in an al-Qaida

suicide bombing two days before the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks that provoked the U.S. invasion. He was named chief of the

northern zone police, which covers the nine northern provinces from its headquarters in Mazar-i-Sharif, about a year ago, at a time when security in northern Afghanistan was steadily deteriorating.

Also killed were provincial police chief Gen. Shah Jahan Noori, a secretary to the governor and one of Daud's bodyguards, the health director said.

Gen. Markus Kneip, the NATO force's commander for northern Afghanistan, was among the wounded, German Defense Minister Thomas de Maiziere said in Berlin.

Earlier this year, Kneip took over NATO's northern regional command, which covers nine provinces on Afghanistan's border with Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. He also serves as the senior national commander of the 4,900 German troops deployed in the north, a region that had been relatively calm but has seen a rise in violence over the past two years.

Two German troops were killed and two others were wounded in the blast, de Maiziere said. Fifty-one German troops have been killed in Afghanistan since the start of the war.

NKorea freed American without aid promise, US says

BEIJING (AP)—North Korea freed an American it held for a half year for reportedly proselytizing, handing him Saturday to a U.S. envoy who said Washington had not promised to provide aid in exchange for the man's release.

The envoy, Robert King, accompanied Eddie Jun on a flight from the North Korean capital, Pyongyang, and told reporters after arriving in Beijing that Jun would be reunited with his family in the United States "within a day or two."

Jun did not appear with King before reporters in Beijing. Jun, dressed in a dark jacket, appeared in good spirits, smiling with King as they boarded the plane in Pyongyang, according to footage from Associated Press Television News. After Beijing, Jun flew to Seoul where he told reporters he would have a medical checkup, South Korea's Yonhap news agency reported.

Jun, a Korean-American from California who traveled to North Korea several times and had business interests there, was arrested in November, with the North's official Korean Central News Agency, or KCNA, saying he was accused of committing a serious crime. Pyongyang didn't provide details, but South Korean press reports say Jun was accused of spreading Christianity.



Afghan security stand at the site where a suicide bomber blew himself up inside the provincial governor's compound in Taloqan, Takhar province, north of Kabul, Afghanistan, Saturday, May 28, 2011.

King, the U.S. envoy for North Korean human rights, traveled to Pyongyang this week with specialists to assess the severity of the latest of North Korea's chronic food shortages.

He said he spent 3 1/2 days in talks with North Korean Foreign Ministry officials. He did not specify how much time was spent discussing Jun but tried to quash any speculation that the

U.S. had offered aid to obtain his freedom.

"We did not negotiate or agree to any provision of food assistance," King told reporters.

The U.N. World Food Pro-

gram made a \$200 million appeal last month, saying more than 6 million of North Korea's 23 million people urgently needed food aid. Some critics question if the need is that dire and whether the North would distribute outside aid fairly.

King said he would report his findings back to Washington.

KCNA announced Friday that Jun would be released after King "expressed regret at the incident on behalf of the U.S. government" and assured it would try to prevent a recurrence.

ASIAN BRIEFS

3 killed, 8 injured in China chemical plant blast

BEIJING (AP)—Authorities say a blast at a chemical plant in eastern China has killed three people and injured eight others. The government of Zibo city in Shandong province said in a statement Sunday that police were investigating the cause of the explosion at a chemical plant owned by Shandong Baoyuan Chemical Co. Ltd. The statement says the Saturday night blast killed two people at the site while a third person died later at a hospital. Eight other people who suffered slight injuries were being treated at a hospital. Industrial accidents are common in China due to lax regulations and safety controls.

Captain of hijacked Taiwan boat died in crossfire

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP)—Taiwan's Foreign Ministry says the captain of a hijacked Taiwanese fishing boat was killed in crossfire between U.S. Navy person-

nel and Somali pirates. The ministry says the USS Stephen W. Groves and pirates aboard the hijacked Jih Chun Tsai 68 fishing trawler exchanged fire over the Indian Ocean during the U.S. frigate's anti-piracy patrol mission earlier this month. The ministry said in a statement late Saturday that three pirates and Taiwanese captain Wu Lai-yu were killed in the incident. The ministry said pirates hijacked the boat off the Somali coast in March 2010 and used the vessel to launch maritime attacks.

Suicide bomber kills 8 tribesmen in NW Pakistan

KHAR, Pakistan (AP)—A suicide bomber targeted pro-government tribal elders in Pakistan's northwestern frontier Saturday, killing eight men, officials said, a day after U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton during a visit here implored Pakistanis to take decisive steps to fight terrorism. Ten people were also were wounded when a bomb ripped through

a restaurant at a market in the troubled Bajur tribal region, near the Afghan border, officials said. A government administrator, Shad Khan, said a man on foot carried out the suicide attack. The Pakistani Taliban claimed responsibility.

Blast at bus company kills 1 in central China

BEIJING (AP)—An explosion at a bus company killed an employee and injured at least two others in central China on Saturday, state media reported, days after a bombing spree in another city rattled the country. The explosion tore through a second-floor storage room in a two-story building of the Chengdu City Bus Group in the city of Chengdu, the reports said. Rescuers found an older man covered in blood lying in the middle of the room, the website of the state-run Sichuan Daily reported. An online report identified the dead man as a 51-year-old bus company employee and said two maintenance workers were injured by shattering glass.

World

After 4 years, Egypt reopens its border with Gaza

By IBRAHIM BARZAK
ASSOCIATED PRESS

RAFAH, Gaza Strip (AP)—Egypt lifted a 4-year-old blockade of the Gaza Strip on Saturday, greatly easing travel restrictions on the 1.5 million residents of the Palestinian territory in a move that bolstered the Hamas government while dealing a setback to Israel's attempts to isolate the militant group.

The sense of relief was palpable as buses piled high with luggage crossed the Rafah border terminal and hundreds of people traveled abroad for overdue medical appointments, business dealings and family affairs. In Israel, fears were heightened that militants and weapons will soon pour into the territory.

"I was so happy to hear that the Egyptian border is opening so I can finally travel for treatment," said Mohammad Zoarob, a 66-year-old suffering from chronic kidney disease.

He said he had been waiting for a medical permit from the Palestinian health ministry for five years so he could go to Egypt for treatment. When Palestinian officials coincidentally approved the permit on Saturday, he kissed his family goodbye, rushed to the border and was quickly whisked across.

"They put me in an ambulance and in five minutes I reached the Egyptian side of the crossing," he said.

Saturday's expansion of the Rafah crossing was a tangible benefit of the popular unrest sweeping through the Arab world. The blockade, which has fueled an economic crisis in Gaza, is deeply unpopular among Arabs, and

Egypt's caretaker leaders had promised to end it since the ouster of longtime President Hosni Mubarak in February.

Israel and Egypt imposed the blockade after the Islamic militant Hamas seized control of Gaza in June 2007. The closure aimed to weaken Hamas.

But the Iranian-backed group remains firmly in power, operating the border crossing even at a time when it is supposed to be reconciling with the rival Fatah movement.

Until Saturday, the Rafah border terminal had functioned at a limited ca-

capacity. Only certain classes of people, such as students, businessmen or medical patients, were eligible to travel and the crossing was often subject to closures, leading to huge backlogs that forced people to wait for months.

Under the new system, virtually anyone can travel, and a much larger number of Palestinians are expected to be able to cross each day.

Hundreds of Gazans gathered early Saturday as the first bus load of passengers crossed the border at 9 a.m. Two Egyptian officers stood guard next to a large Egyptian flag atop the border gate

as the vehicle rumbled through. One after another buses crossed Rafah, pulling blue carts behind them with luggage piled high.

"All we need is to travel like humans, be treated with dignity and feel like any other citizens of the world who can travel in and out freely," said Rami Arafat, 52, who hoped to catch a flight out of Cairo on Sunday to attend his daughter's wedding in Algeria.

Nearby, 28-year-old Khaled Hala-weh said he was headed to Egypt to study for a master's degree in engineering at Alexandria University.



Palestinian Yasser Srsau, right, embraces a family member before crossing into Egypt through the Rafah border crossing, southern Gaza Strip, Saturday, May 28, 2011.

Lawyer: Mladic knows he's headed to the Hague

BELGRADE, Serbia (AP)—Serb authorities have stepped up security ahead of a nationalist rally opposing the extradition of former Bosnian Serb Gen. Ratko Mladic to face war crimes charges before an international court.

Extreme right-wing groups urged their supporters, mostly soccer hooligans, to join Sunday's planned rally in front of parliament in downtown Belgrade. Organized by the ultranationalist Serbian Radical Party, the rally is seen as a test about whether Mladic still enjoys popular support after 16 years as a fugitive.

"Additional attention has been focused on the extremist groups these days," said Ivica Dacic, Serbia's police chief. "We are taking measures to prevent the escalation of extremist behavior."

Mladic's lawyer said the former Bosnian Serb military commander knows he will be extradited to a U.N. war crimes tribunal but wants time to rest before the trip.

Attorney Milos Saljic told reporters that Mladic does not know exactly when he will be extradited to the tribunal in The Hague, Netherlands, "but he would like to recover a little bit first."

Mladic, 69, is being held in a Serbian jail. He could be extradited as early as Monday, if a judge rejects his appeal of a decision to move him to The Hague. His defense team and family have said he suffers from several health problems.

Dacic said the rally scheduled Sunday in Belgrade will closely be watched by the police, but he stressed that "the situation in Serbia is stable."

Saljic said Mladic made "a public appeal" against violence by his supporters.

"He is calling for there to be no bloodshed," Saljic told reporters after meeting Mladic in his prison cell. "He does not want to be the cause of unrest."

Mladic is charged by the U.N. war crimes court for his part in the killing of some 8,000 Bosnian Muslim men and boys in Srebrenica, and other atrocities committed by his troops during Bosnia's 1992-95 war.

Saljic also told reporters Mladic's mental state was poor.

"He's in a kind of confusion," Saljic said. "His health has not improved."

Saljic said Mladic asked to see some of his "old friends." A judge would have to approve such visits, the lawyer said.

Hundreds of women report rapes by Gadhafi forces

By MICHELLE FAUL
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BENGHAZI, Libya (AP)—At first, the responses to the questionnaire about the trauma of the war in Libya were predictable, if tragic: 10,000 people suffering post-traumatic stress, 4,000 children with psychological problems. Then came the unexpected: 259 women said they had been raped by militiamen loyal to Moammar Gadhafi.

Dr. Seham Sergewa had been working with children traumatized by the fighting in Libya but soon found herself being approached by troubled mothers who felt they could trust her with their dark secret.

The first victim came forward two months ago, followed by two more. All were mothers of children the London-trained child psychologist was treating, and all described how they were raped by militiamen fighting to keep Gadhafi in power.

Sergewa decided to add a question about rape to the survey she was distributing to Libyans living in refugee camps after being driven from their homes. The main purpose was to try to determine how children were faring in the war; she suspected many were suffering from PTSD.

To her surprise, 259 women came forward with accounts of rape. They all said the same thing.

"I was really surprised when I started

visiting these areas, first by the number of people suffering from PTSD, including the large number of children among them, and then by the number of women who had been raped from both the east and west of the country," Sergewa said in an interview with The Associated Press.

Rape has been a common weapon of war throughout the ages, most recently in conflicts from the Balkans in Europe to Sri Lanka in Asia and in sub-Saharan Africa, where Congo has been described as the epicenter of sexual crimes.

Across the world, rape carries a stigma. But it can be a deadly one in conservative Muslim societies like Libya, where rape is considered a stain on the honor of the entire family. Victims can be abandoned by their families and, in some cases, left in the desert to die. Speaking to a journalist is out of the question.

Sergewa's questionnaire was distributed to 70,000 families and drew 59,000 responses.

"We found 10,000 people with PTSD, 4,000 children suffering psychological problems and 259 raped women," she said, adding that she believes the number of rape victims is many times higher but that women are afraid to report the attacks.

The women said they had been raped by Gadhafi's militias in numerous cities and towns: Benghazi, Tobruk, Brega, Bayda and Ajdabiya (where the initial three mothers hail from) and Saloum in

the east; and Misrata in the west.

Some just said they had been raped. Some did not sign their names; some just used their initials. But some felt compelled to share the horrific details of their ordeals on the back of the questionnaire.

Reading from the scribbled Arabic on the back of one survey, Sergewa described one woman's attack in Misrata in March, while it was still occupied by Gadhafi's forces.

"First they tied my husband up," the woman wrote. "Then they raped me in front of my husband and my husband's brother. Then they killed my husband."

Another woman in Misrata said she was raped in front of her four children after Gadhafi fighters burned down her home.

"She ran away with her children and tried to escape to the port, but then they started shelling the port. In the chaos, she was separated from the children," Sergewa said.

"She was distraught when I interviewed her, not knowing if her children were dead or alive. I wish I knew the end of her story, but I don't know what happened to her."

Doctors at hospitals in Benghazi, the rebel bastion, said they had heard of women being raped but had not treated any. The first international airstrikes on March 19 saved the city from falling into the hands of Gadhafi forces who were advancing in columns of tanks.

WORLD BRIEFS

Yemen president, tribal chief agree to end clashes

SANAA, Yemen (AP)—Yemen's embattled president and the country's most powerful tribal leader agreed Saturday to end five days of gunbattles that killed 124 people and pushed the country's political crisis closer to civil war. The fighting between forces loyal to both men made the past week the deadliest since mass street protests for an end to President Ali Abdullah Saleh's 33-year rule broke out three months ago. Although it could prevent bloodshed, the agreement will do little to solve the wider crisis, with Saleh rejecting efforts to negotiate his exit. The week's battles began when Saleh's security forces attacked the home of Sheik Sadeq al-Ahmar, head of the powerful Hasid tribal confederation and an uneasy ally who abandoned the president and joined his opponents. Tribal fighters came to al-Ahmar's defense and seized a number of government buildings in the Hassaba neighborhood of the capital, Sanaa, during intense clashes. Fighting then spread outside the capital when tribal

fighters seized two army posts north of the city on Friday.

Ex-leader returns to Honduras 2 years after

TEGUCIGALPA, Honduras (AP)—Former President Manuel Zelaya's return to Honduras almost two years after being forced into exile by a military-backed coup has ended a crippling political crisis and paved the way for the impoverished country's reintegration into the international community. The Organization of American States, which expelled Honduras following the June 2009 coup, is expected to bring it back into the fold in meetings in the coming week. The Venezuelan-owned plane carrying Zelaya to Honduras' capital from neighboring Nicaragua on Saturday was greeted by thousands of his dancing and singing supporters who had set up a tent camp nearby in anticipation of his arrival. Wearing his trademark white cowboy hat, Zelaya triumphantly told supporters to pursue change peacefully and called for an end to coups.

Focus

Behind the raid that nabbed Mladic

By **DUSAN STOJANOVIC**
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BELGRADE, Serbia (AP)—The old man, hobbled by pain, couldn't coax himself to sleep. He got out of bed just before dawn, pulled on a blue baseball cap and headed for a walk in the garden. Maybe some fresh air would clear his head.

At the same time, four jeeps carrying about 20 masked men in black fatigues rolled quietly into the remote northern Serbian village of Lazarevo, hoping to surprise a quarry that had eluded them for 16 years. They pulled up to four houses simultaneously—all owned by relatives of one of the world's most wanted men.

Four of the men jumped over a fence and burst into one of the houses as the frail man moved toward the door. They grabbed him and pushed him roughly to the floor.

"Identify yourself!" one shouted.

The old man managed a whisper: "I'm Ratko Mladic."

An excruciating manhunt had ended quietly as the sun rose over the Serbian fields.

The account, provided to The Associated Press by three Serbian police officials on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the information, was the most detailed to date of the operation that captured the man charged with orchestrating atrocities in the Bosnian war, including Europe's worst massacre since World War II.

Mladic, the officials said, moved to the largely Bosnian Serb village of Lazarevo about two years ago, figuring he would be safe with his relatives. Earlier in his life as a fugitive



People look into the yard of the house where former Bosnian Serb wartime general Ratko Mladic was found in the village Lazarevo, about 50 kilometers north of Belgrade, Serbia, Saturday, May 28, 2011.

he was brazen enough to be seen at fancy restaurants and drinking clubs in Belgrade, Serbia's capital, but here he lived an anonymous, low-key lifestyle.

Age and declining health helped make him inconspicuous. The slow, unsteady 69-year-old who appeared in court Friday bore little resemblance to the robust, uniformed figure strutting in front of the cameras during the Bosnian war.

Police said they had no tip that Mladic was hiding out in Lazarevo, and no specific information about the house where

he was found, other than it was owned by a relative. The officers, who have been searching for Mladic across Serbia for years, had never been to Lazarevo.

They came at 5 a.m. Thursday, when most of the village's 2,000 residents were still asleep. The streets were virtually empty when the jeeps rolled in.

Police said Mladic was awake in the yellow brick house he rarely left because his body ached from a variety of ailments. He was headed for a walk when the masked officers surprised him.

"Good work," Mladic told them, according to Serbian police chief Ivica Dacic. "You found the one you were looking for."

The three police officials said Mladic was carrying two loaded pistols. "Don't do something funny," an officer told him, and Mladic dutifully handed over the weapons.

The officers pushed Mladic into one of the 4x4s and raced away, the jeep's heavy tires sending fine dust into the air.

He was taken to Belgrade. He could be extradited as early as Monday to The Hague in the Netherlands, where the U.N. war crimes tribunal has been waiting for him since 1995.

Mladic was the top commander of the Bosnian Serb army during Bosnia's 1992-95 war, which left more than 100,000 people dead and drove another 1.8 million from their homes. He is charged with international war crimes in a campaign to purge the region of non-Serbs that included the slaughter of 8,000 Muslim men and boys in the Bosnian town of Srebrenica.

Though Mladic had evaded capture since 1995, Dacic said the ex-general did not have a large support network.

"Mladic lived alone with his relatives, without any financial means," the chief told reporters Friday. "The stories that he had a major ring of security and many helpers turned out not to be true."

A \$10 million (7 million euro) reward had been offered for Mladic's arrest, but Serbian officials said no one will pick it up because police were not acting on a tip when they arrested him.

Mladic was taken to court on Thurs-

day and Friday, when a judge ruled he was fit enough to be extradited. His attorney is appealing, saying he's too ill to leave Serbia.

The Serbian health ministry said in a statement that a team of prison doctors described Mladic's health as stable following checkups. It also said Health Minister Zoran Stankovic, a former friend of Mladic's, visited him in his cell Friday.

Mladic is taking a lot of medicine, but "responds very rationally to everything that is going on," deputy war crimes prosecutor Bruno Vekaric said. A tribunal spokeswoman said from The Hague that it is capable of dealing with any health problems.

Mladic addressed people in court by name and talked a lot, a judicial official told the AP on condition of anonymity. The official said Mladic also refused to take off his blue ball cap.

"His body is weak, but his eyes are the blue-steel eyes of a young man," the official said.

Mladic asked for fresh strawberries to be brought to his cell, along with novels by Russian master Leo Tolstoy and a television set, the judicial official said.

The strawberries were provided; it wasn't immediately clear if he had also been given the books and the TV. And the official said Mladic was denied his request to visit the Belgrade grave of his daughter Ana, who killed herself in 1994 with her father's favorite pistol.

Mladic is seeking at least one more thing, Vekaric said: his military pension, which has been frozen because of his indictment.



Ratko Mladic

Former chief of staff of the Bosnian Serb Army

Early years

Born March 12, 1943, Kalinovik, Bosnia and Herzegovina
Education Military Industry School, KOV Military Academy, Officers Academy

Military leadership

1991 Commands troops in Kosovo; promoted to major general; leads troops in the Croatian War
1992 Promoted to lieutenant colonel general; leads the blockade of Sarajevo, beginning the four-year siege of the city; commands the main staff of the army
1994 Promoted to colonel general
1995 Commands troops that overran Srebrenica, where about 8,000 Bosnian Muslims were murdered on his orders
1996 Dismissed from his post

Indictment, capture

1995 Accused by U.N. war crimes tribunal at The Hague of genocide, crimes against humanity and other crimes during the 1992-95 war, including the Srebrenica massacre
2011 Captured after having been on the run since 1995

© 2011 MCT
Source: U.N. International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, AP, BBC

Villagers say Mladic arrest a surprise

By **DANICA KIRKA**
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LAZAREVO, Serbia (AP)—It's hard to keep a secret in this leafy village in northern Serbia—and that's what makes war crimes suspect Ratko Mladic's arrest such a surprise.

Villagers who admit they know far too much about each other say it just can't be true that they'd have an outsider in their midst without their knowledge. Neighbors have often been at the home of Mladic's relative—a simple man who lived alone in a house with a big gate, some overgrown roses and a cherry tree—but never saw cousin Ratko.

"No one, really I swear, has seen him," said Nedeljko Arsic as he and other locals paused on their bikes to watch the police and the journalists snapping pictures and trying to get a glimpse inside the family compound, complete with tractor and corrugated steel-roofed outbuilding.

Masked police seized Mladic, 69, as he headed out to his garden for a pre-dawn walk on Thursday, Serbian police officials told The Associated Press. Similar raids have been conducted throughout Serbia for years in the hunt for Mladic, who went underground seven years after his 1995 in-

dictment by the U.N. war crimes court on charges of genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes.

But police describe coming across Mladic almost by accident—and say that it was the first time they'd raided the home just off a single lane road. They say he was very pale, suggesting he rarely ventured outside.

But the people of Lazarevo have their doubts about the official version of events. And in a country that loves a conspiracy theory, they are not the only ones who say something is awry in the account of the capture of the infamous fugitive from justice, said Zoran Dragisic, a political analyst.

Serbs also have noted that the man who was captured is a shadow of the vigorous commander who laid siege to Sarajevo and is accused of being the architect of the Srebrenica massacre—the worst such atrocity in Europe since World War II. He's aged. Relatives say he can barely talk.

"What is obvious is that Ratko Mladic is very ill. According to doctors, he had two strokes, and it's clear that a man in that condition cannot live on his own," Dragisic said. "He needed special medical assistance, so I really don't believe this story that he lived alone without help."

"Even if the official version is true, there is a question how Serbian intelligence services were not able to find some old, ill man who is hiding in a village."

The people of Lazarevo, 60 kilometers (35 miles) north of the capital, Belgrade, can't help but wonder, too.

Father Ivan Popov, an Orthodox priest, says that contrary to what authorities have said, police have searched the community before, begging the question of why they didn't find him before. Neighbors also insist that Mladic's cousin, a farmer who lived in this community all his life, was just not capable of the guile needed to hide a war crimes suspect—even if it were only for a little while, as police suggest.

To hide out, a fugitive would have needed help.

"Who helped him all this time, that's the question," Arsic said. Mladic "couldn't have done it by himself."

Authorities have long tried to crack the close circle of military officers, nationalists, and other sympathizers thought to have protected Mladic and given him the funds to keep moving—sometimes only days ahead of the police. Nearly 16 years on the run, Mladic's safehouses have included military bases, apartments owned by former

military officers or their relatives in the capital, Belgrade, and reportedly even a hospital.

But as the years dragged on, the undercurrent of Mladic's support began to falter. Serbia's new Western-leaning government gradually isolated the nationalists within the system, slowly dismantled the underlying power structure that kept supporters of former President Slobodan Milosevic in power.

But even if the country hadn't moved on, Mladic could have scarcely found a village more welcoming. People who live in this staunchly nationalist community of 3,000 say they would have sought to protect Mladic, a general seen as a hero who fought to defend the Serbs in the wars that followed the disintegration of Yugoslavia—had they known he was here.

Many in the community are descendants of people who once left Bosnia themselves as part of a post-World War II program designed to promote ethnic integration in this corner of northern Serbia. As far as they're concerned, Mladic is one of their own.

"No real Serb would ever think Mladic is a war criminal," Popov said.

He plans a service Sunday at his community church to pray for Mladic's health.

Civic leaders are talking about renaming the village Mladicevo—as a tribute to the general who took refuge there.

Health & Fitness

Is a repeat flu shot needed? This fall, maybe not

By MIKE STOBBER
AP MEDICAL WRITER

ATLANTA (AP)—Vaccine makers said this month they plan to make a record amount of flu vaccine for this fall and winter—enough for more than half the population. It's just not clear all those people will need it.

This year's flu shot will be a duplicate of last year's because the same flu strains are still circulating. So some experts say young, healthy people may have enough protection from last season's vaccine to skip getting it again this fall.

"For healthy people, it can't be said to be necessary," said Dr. Robert Couch, a flu vaccine expert at the Baylor College of Medicine.

Still, government health officials are urging nearly everyone to get this fall's flu shot. They say a vaccine's protection can

fade significantly after several months—especially for those who are frail and elderly.

Two weeks ago, five vaccine manufacturers announced plans to make between 166 million and 173 million doses for the coming season. That's at least 6 million more than the maximum ever produced.

It's quite a bet, considering the flu season that just ended was somewhat mild. But vaccine makers think it's a good one.

"We are confident in our 2011 projections for the U.S. market. They are based on ordering patterns as well as what's known about the epidemiology of the flu," said Liz Power, spokeswoman for Novartis Vaccines, one of the main manufacturers of flu shots for the United States.

Demand for vaccine has been growing in the U.S. More than 40 percent of the population was vaccinated against the flu in the

last 10 months, the second year in a row vaccinations were at so high a level. Previously, only about a third of Americans were getting vaccinated, according to government figures.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention had something to do with that. Last year, the CDC began recommending an annual flu vaccination for everyone except babies younger than 6 months and those with egg allergies or other unusual conditions. That probably helped boost vaccination rates, along with the appearance in 2009 of swine flu, which was more dangerous than other strains to young people.

The CDC also is buying about 18 million of the 2011-2012 doses, primarily for government vaccine programs for children.

Other countries, even in Europe, do not promote flu shots

as aggressively as the United States. Seasonal flu can be deadly, especially for the elderly and people with weak immune systems.

The biggest selling point for an annual shot, usually, is that flu strains are usually different each year. But this year, that argument goes out the window. The last time flu strains didn't change was during the winters of 2002-2004.

But there are other arguments for getting a flu shot. For one thing, the vaccine is only about 70 percent effective to begin with—and that's in a good year, when the vaccine is well-calibrated to circulating strains. That's not good enough to protect the U.S. population for one year, let alone two, CDC officials say.

But the main argument now is one of waning immunity. CDC officials believe that a year after someone gets the flu shot, antibody levels—an indicator of immunity—can fall by two-thirds or more. Some key studies indicate the resulting levels are not strong enough to be protective, said Nancy Cox, head of the CDC's chief of the

CDC's flu division.

However, other studies are less clear. Some have suggested that a flu vaccination can provide sufficient protection for more than a year in adults, and perhaps two or three years in children.

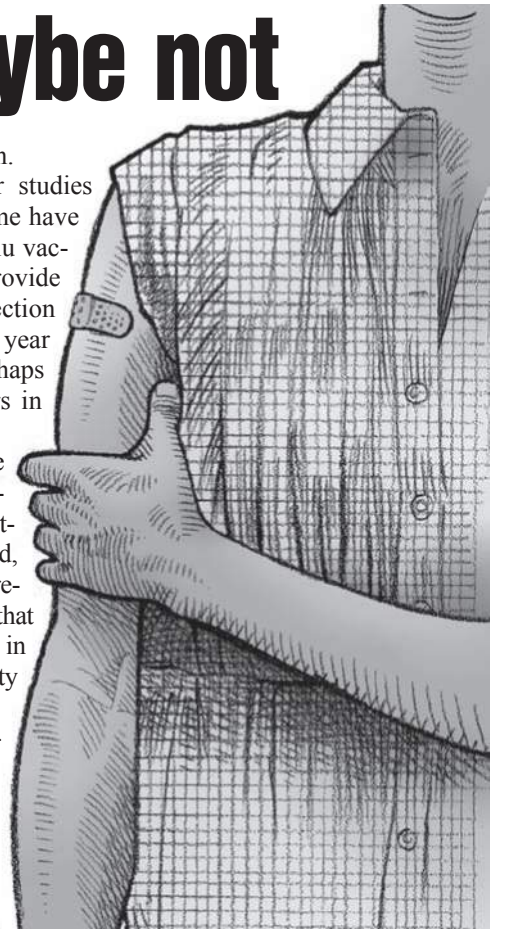
Cox said some of those conflicting studies are outdated and flawed, and noted more recent U.S. studies that found large drops in children's immunity in just one year.

Other researchers sound less decided about which studies were right and which were wrong on this question.

"Nobody really, really knows," said Dr. John Treanor, a flu vaccine researcher at the University of Rochester School of Medicine.

But even if the question is unsettled, Treanor and other experts said the CDC's position is probably the wisest course.

"The bottom line is, with our current knowledge, we believe it is better to be re-vaccinated. And getting another shot is certainly not going to harm you," said Dr. Arnold Monto, an esteemed University of Michigan flu expert.



Personal Trainer

Value of soccer head protectors

Foam helmets and padded headbands do little to soften the impact of heading a soccer ball, according to a study.

Impact tests

Researchers tested four brands of soccer headgear on a mannequin head with pressure sensors

Soccer ball struck forehead at:

20 and 26 mph (32 and 42 kph) to simulate heading

Headgear did not reduce impact

34 mph (55 kph) to simulate stronger impact, such as blocking a down-field kick

Some reduction of impact

Possible reason

Soccer ball and headgear are both relatively soft
When they collide, force and acceleration of impact are not reduced

Football helmet is hard and protects against hard objects such as ground or another helmet

Protects head by dissipating energy, slowing head's velocity and absorbing impact with its padding

Risks involved

European studies have linked soccer head injuries with mental deficiencies similar to those of retired boxers:

- Diminished attention
- Impaired memory

Source: Washington University and Whitaker Foundation study reported in Academic Emergency Medicine

© 2011 MCT Graphic: Paul Trap

The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that young soccer players not intentionally head the ball

By MARILYNN MARCHIONE
AP MEDICAL WRITER

SAN DIEGO (AP)—We're becoming a nation of bum knees, worn-out hips and sore shoulders, and it's not just the Medicare set. Baby boomer bones and joints also are taking a pounding, spawning a boom in operations to fix them.

Knee replacement surgeries have doubled over the last decade and more than tripled in the 45-to-64 age group, new research shows. Hips are trending that way, too.

And here's a surprise: It's not all due to obesity. Ironically, trying to stay fit and avoid extra pounds is taking a toll on a generation that expects bad joints can be swapped out like old tires on a car.

"Boomeritis" or "fix-me-itis" is what Dr. Nicholas DiNubile, a suburban Philadelphia surgeon, calls it.

"It's this mindset of 'fix me at any cost, turn back the clock,'" said DiNubile, an adviser to several pro athletic groups and a spokesman for the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons. "The boomers are the first generation trying to stay active in droves on an aging frame" and are less willing to use a cane or put up with pain or stiffness as their grandparents did, he said.

A huge industry says they don't have to. TV ads show people water skiing with new hips. Ads tout "the athletic knee," "the

custom knee," "the male knee," "the female knee." Tennis great Billie Jean King, 67, is promoting the "30-year" Smith & Nephew knees she got last year.

"I wanted to make sure whatever they put in me was going to last," she said. "I'm not trying to win Wimbledon anymore. I'm trying to get my exercise in," play a little tennis on the clay courts in Central Park, and walk to a movie or a restaurant. "If I'd known what I know now, I would have had it 10 years ago."

Joint replacements have enabled millions of people like King to lead better lives, and surgeons are increasingly comfortable offering them to younger people.

But here's the rub: No one really knows how well these implants will perform in the active baby boomers getting them now. Most studies were done in older folks whose expectations were to be able to go watch a grandchild's soccer game - not play the sport themselves, as one researcher put it.

Even the studies presented at a recent orthopedics conference that found knee replacements are lasting 20 years come with the caveat that this is in older people who were not stressing their new joints by running marathons, skiing or playing tennis.

Besides the usual risks of surgery - infection, blood clots, anesthesia problems - replacing joints in younger people increases the odds they'll need future operations when these

wear out, specialists say.

"We think very carefully about patients under 50" and talk many of them out of replacing joints, said Dr. William Robb, orthopedics chief at NorthShore University HealthSystem in suburban Chicago.

But many don't want to wait, even if they're not much beyond that:

■ Karen Guffey, a 55-year-old retired civilian police worker in San Diego, plans to have a hip replaced in September. "I can't exercise the way I want to. I have to go slow, which is really aggravating. I want to go full force," she said. "I'm not worried about how I'm going to feel when I'm 75. I want to feel good now."

■ Karen Cornwall, a Haver-town, Pa., nurse who played a slew of sports since childhood, had both knees replaced last year when she was 54. "I just felt like I was too young and too active to be in pain all the time," she explained.

■ Bill McMullen, a former Marine and construction worker from suburban Philadelphia, had seven knee repair surgeries before finally getting a knee replacement at age 55 a decade ago. He took up weightlifting to spare his knees but damaged a shoulder and had it replaced two years ago. "People ask me if I'm happy and I say, 'If you have pain, go and get it done,'" he said of joint replacement. "It was the best thing for me. I have no pain."

Life & Style

Married couples in less than half of US households

By NIGEL DUARA
ASSOCIATED PRESS

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP)—Three mornings a week, when Becky Leung gets ready for work, her boyfriend is just getting home from his overnight job. When her mother drops hints about her twin sister's marriage, she laughs it off. And when she thinks about getting married herself, she worries first about her career.

Leung, 27, cohabits in a Portland, Ore., townhome with her boyfriend but has no plans yet to wed, a reflection of the broader cultural shift in the U.S. away from the traditional definition of what it means to be a household.

Data released Thursday by the U.S. Census Bureau shows married couples have found themselves in a new position: They're no longer the majority.

It's a trend that's been creeping along for decades, but in the 2010 Census, married couples represent 48 percent of all households. That's down from 52 percent in the last Census and, for the first time in U.S. history, puts households led by married couples as a plurality.

"I see a lot of people not having the typical 8-to-5 job, or couples where one person is

employed and one isn't. There's other priorities before marriage," Leung said.

The flip in the 2010 Census happened in 32 states. In another seven states, less than 51 percent of households were helmed by married couples.

The reason, said Portland State University demographer Charles Rynerson, is twofold: The fast-growing older population is more likely to be divorced or widowed later in life, and 20-somethings are putting off their nuptials for longer stretches.

"People in their 20s are postponing marriage for many reasons, including money," Rynerson said. "We also have an aging population, so there's more people living alone."

Fears of not being able to hang onto a job, a widening labor market for women and a shift away from having kids at a young age have all proved to be a disincentive for people in their 20s and early 30s to join the ranks of the married.

Leung is indicative of that trend. She's got a marketing job in a trendy city, writes a personal blog on living a gluten-free lifestyle and has plans to get married—eventually.

"I think a lot of people make

a mistake of saying, I've got a good job, I'm stable, I'm ready to take the next step," Leung said. "You never know what happens down the road. That's the whole purpose of dating."

"You're not there to just have fun."

The median age for first marriages has climbed steadily since the 1960s, when men got married at about 23 years old, and women at 20. Now, men are waiting until they're 28 and women are holding off until 26.

"Some of that is people coupling but not being married," Rynerson said. "There are not nearly as many people in their 20s who are married as in previous generations."

The data supports that, as the Census Bureau reported last year that opposite-sex unmarried couples living together jumped 13 percent from 2009 to 7.5 million.

We're also living longer, with an average life expectancy of 78 years, nearly a decade longer than in the 1960s.

To reflect the changing attitudes on marriage, the Census Bureau has broadened the definition of family this year to include unmarried couples, such as same-sex partners, as well as foster children who are not re-

lated by blood or adoption.

And attitudes on marriage are changing, too. About 39 percent of Americans say marriage is becoming obsolete, according to a Pew Research Center study published in November, up from 28 percent in 1978.

Oregon is about average when it comes to the declining number of households led by married couples, and reflects the larger nationwide trend.

It's also a state that represents much of the ups and downs of the 2000s: There was population growth during the decade

from Hispanics, a decline in the state's manufacturing sector and an economy in the central part of the state that was crushed by the crumbling housing market and Great Recession.

The state to buck the declining-marriage trend is Utah, where 61 percent of households are led by married couples. On the opposite side of the spectrum is Louisiana, which has the second-lowest percent of married people heading households. Louisiana State University sociologist Troy Blanchard said rural and urban poverty plays a

major role.

"There's a lot of unmarried female householders, a lot of concentrated poverty where they don't have maybe the education or resources that allows for (marriage)," Blanchard said.

A decade ago, only six states and the District of Columbia were approaching the 2010 trend and had less than half of their households led by married couples. Data scheduled to be released later this year will include statistics for same-sex marriages.

Justice gets nearly \$1.2 million for memoir

WASHINGTON (AP)—Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor says she received nearly \$1.2 million to write a memoir of her rise from a poor housing project in New York City to the highest U.S. court.

Sotomayor reported the payment for the as-yet untitled book from Knopf Doubleday Publishing Group in her annual report of personal finances, released Friday for the justice and her eight colleagues. Knopf revealed last July that Sotomayor had agreed to write the memoir, but the size of the advance had not been known.

The book will come out si-

multaneously in English and in Spanish, but no release date has been set. Sotomayor is the court's first Hispanic justice. Her parents moved from Puerto Rico to New York after World War II.

Justice Clarence Thomas also received more than \$1 million before the publication of his book, "My Grandfather's Son" in 2007.

Thomas reported that his wife, Virginia, received salary and benefits from two conservative advocacy groups she created, Liberty Central and Liberty Consulting. The amounts were not disclosed; they are not required.

Two justices reported receiving royalties for books they

published in recent years. Justice Stephen Breyer traveled the country to promote his new book "Making Our Democracy Work." He received nearly \$60,000 in royalties.

Justice Antonin Scalia took in \$38,000 for "Making Your Case," the book about legal advocacy that he co-wrote with Bryan Garner.

Breyer also reported selling his shares of Wal-Mart Stores Inc., valued at \$15,000 to \$50,000. The stock sale allowed Breyer to take part in the court's consideration of Wal-Mart's effort to end a massive sex discrimination lawsuit.

In Humble Gratitude

We the family of the late
**Bernadita Sablan
Naputi Dela Cruz**

April 16, 1963 - May 09, 2011

Wish to extend our deepest and warmest appreciation to all our relatives and friends for the genuine compassion you showed us during our greatest and most painful time of sorrow. Your thoughtful prayers, comfort, and unending support and other considerate acts of grace did much to calm the ache in our hearts and may time lessen our pain as memories gently turn tears to smiles. We acknowledge and cherish the time you devoted us, your kindness that has touched us all and we will forever remember you. May God bless us all.

Our sincerest appreciation to Fr. Eugene Espeleta for the touching homily and celebrating the Mass of Christian Burial. Thank you to Fr. Raul Salgado for assisting in the celebration. Your humble presence has touched our hearts. Our gratitude to Ms. Marcy P. Cepeda for her tireless efforts and the Kantaye Kristo Rai Choir. To Margaret C. Dela Cruz and Frank Cabrera for the music provided to our beloved on her funeral day and this morning at our Eucharistic Celebration. To the Doctors, Nurses and staff of CHC for the care and compassion extended to our beloved.

Masen magof ham in ekstende un sinseru yan Dangkulu na Si Yu'us Ma'ase para i familia yan manatungo siha pot i tinayuyot yan finatton-miyu diurante i pinitenmami. Todu i tiempo bai hahasso hamyo gi tinayuyot-mami ni familia.

Thank You – Si Yu'us Ma'ase

Steven S. Dela Cruz, Children and Family
Jose H. and Hinara A. Naputi, Children and Family
Gregorio C. and Bernadita S. Dela Cruz, Children and Family
Family of the late †Francisco (Fal) Arriola

Message of Appreciation

We, the family of the late

Raymond F. Alvarez

wish to thank all of you who made so many sacrifices to make Raymond's last days with us easier. Many of you were with us during the long haul and many of you touched our hearts and helped us come together as one. No matter what it was, you gave generously. Your presence, prayers, warm remembrances, comfort and support during our time of mourning means the world to us. For all these, we say from the bottom of our hearts, Si Yu'os Ma'ase' and Thank You.

Linda Mesa Alvarez, Children and Grandchildren: Ray, Jr. and Sisi Marie, Cuki and Mari, Tioni and Josenio and Family.

PHILADELPHIA—Barring the end of the world (it didn't happen Saturday, did it?), or the even less likely scenario in which no one bothers to go out next weekend to see three guys wake up completely blotto, there will be a "Hangover: Part III."

"Obviously, it will depend on the success of the second one," says Bradley Cooper, whose participation in the inaugural "Hangover" had more than a little to do with his rocket launch to stardom.

"You never know," Cooper adds, trying to sound cautious about the box-office prospects of the much-anticipated follow-up. "But if there's a sure thing. ..."

The first "Hangover," released in 2009 and likewise costarring Zach Galifianakis and Ed Helms, went on to earn \$469.5 million worldwide. It was, in case you missed it, set in Las Vegas, where a bachelor party headed into a Bermuda triangle of amnesia, anarchy and absurdist raunch. In director Todd Phillips' "The Hangover: Part II," the setting is more exotic—Bangkok. And the straits the trio find themselves in, believe it or not, are even crazier.

It's "Defcon 5 in Bangkok," Cooper says.

The actor, who dropped back in on his hometown recently, promises, however, that when the third "Hangover" comes around, it will break from the now-established formula. Like the first, "Part II" finds its protagonists unable to piece together the evidently tumultuous events of the preceding evening. The fact that Helms' character, mild-mannered dentist Stu Price, wakes up with a tattoo across half his face is only the beginning of the mystery.

"I'll do a third no matter what," says Cooper. "We've all talked about it, Ed, Zach and I, and Todd, and it really is about us coming together and agreeing on a concept. And we've all agreed to the tone of the third one, and what it has to be—which is completely not adhering to the formula of the second."

"That said, I do think that this one had to adhere to the structure, so you can get to know the characters more—they're much more fully developed. Now we can depart from that. ... So, for the third one, there will be no missing night. It will be an interesting thing."

Cooper has already had a good year, box office-wise. "Limitless," the deft, dark thriller about a slacker scribe who takes a drug that makes him preternaturally smart and successful, was No. 1 its opening weekend, and has now grossed close to \$80 million domesti-



MELINDA SUE GORDON/WARNER BROS. PICTURES/MCT

Bradley Cooper as Phil, from left, Zach Galifianakis as Alan and Ed Helms as Stu star in Warner Bros. Pictures' and Legendary Pictures' comedy, "The Hangover Part II," a Warner Bros. Pictures release.

Bradley Cooper drinks in life after 'Hangover'

By STEVEN REA
THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER

cally and \$60 million overseas. It won terrific reviews, too.

"Limitless" director, Neil Burger, originally had Shia LaBeouf in mind for the lead, but (happily) that didn't happen, and Cooper came along instead. About his leading man, Burger said: "Bradley's worked hard and he's struggled, and I'm sure in his life he's had times where he felt like, 'Well, is this ever going to work out for me?'"

We read that quote back to Cooper.

"Oh absolutely, there were low points," he responds. "I remember being on 'Alias,' a TV show that was sort of my 'break,' it gave me a way to make

a living as an actor, a real living. ... So, I'm out in Los Angeles, I'm doing this TV show, and then I was relegated to three scenes an episode, and I was just completely depressed. I felt like I was on location in a place I hated, doing a job that I wasn't able to do, really."

Cooper was also auditioning for parts in films and not getting them—"putting my soul into trying to get these roles, and being rejected." Frustrated, he decided to call it quits.

"That was a real low point," he recalls. "Then I severed my Achilles tendon and I asked to be written off the show, and I called my business manager and told him

to stop representing me."

Cooper's retirement didn't last long, however. He went to see Paul Thomas Anderson's "Punch Drunk Love" in a theater and couldn't imagine not being in a business where work like that was getting made.

"I thought, wow, I have to do this. I don't want to be doing something else—I'd be sitting watching this movie and wanting to kill myself."

"So, I kept acting and I was lucky enough to get work. But there was still rejection, and disappointment. And there still is. Last week is a great example: There was this movie I really

wanted to get, I did everything I could, but when I found out I didn't get it, it didn't kill me, I didn't feel that low. And then when I found out that I got this other movie that I was dying to do for three years, I also didn't feel that tremendous high.

"So maybe I'm growing up," he reflects. "But this (business) means everything. I love what I do. It's part of my life. But it's a marathon. I understand that more now."

And then he laughs.

"Of course, it's very easy to say all that when we're sitting here talking on the 37th floor of this restaurant and I'm working."

And working, and working.

This is how Cooper's next year is likely to go, at least as things stand right now: After stops in Toronto, Cannes, New York, Los Angeles, New York again and Berlin, mostly to promote "The Hangover: Part II," Cooper goes to Montreal to start work on "The Words."

"That's my buddy Brian Klugman, who I grew up with. I've known him since I was about 10 years old. We went to high school together," says Cooper. "And he wrote this little movie about a writer. Jeremy Irons is doing it, Dennis Quaid, Amanda Seyfried, Zoe Saldana ... it's great. I looked at (the screenplay) the other day and I realized I have a huge role."

He laughs.

"I thought it was much smaller. Oh shoot. You know that feeling you get before an exam? That's me right now."

And after "The Words"?

"Five days on a new movie by another buddy of mine, Dax Shepard." And then "The Place Beyond the Pines," from "Blue Valentine" director Derek Cianfrance, with "Blue Valentine's" Ryan Gosling opposite Cooper. And then "Paradise Lost" in October—yes, the Milton poem about the devil and the fall of man—and then a reboot of the dark comic-book saga "The Crow," to be directed by "28 Weeks Later's" Juan Carlos Fresnadillo.

Phew.

"Well, you know how it is," Cooper says with a grin, after running down his schedule. "None of that could happen—and then you'll see me walking down the street in a total daze."

By STEVE SZKOTAK
ASSOCIATED PRESS

RICHMOND, Virginia (AP)—Within the first five minutes of the History channel documentary "Gettysburg," a Union soldier splits open the skull of a Confederate with his rifle stock. Blood erupts from the battle wounds, splattering the camera's lens.

Would you expect anything less from Ridley and Tony Scott, whose resumes include the films "Top Gun," "Black Hawk Down" and "Gladiator"? The British brothers behind some of the biggest blockbusters don't skimp on the horrors of war for the small screen in this docudrama.

"You know, when you're watching a documentary, the danger is to romanticize," Ridley Scott said in an interview with The Associated Press. "There was absolutely nothing romantic about this war whatsoever, no more than any other war."

"Gettysburg," executive produced by the Scott brothers, premieres on

Sunday evening, on the Memorial Day holiday, as History launches a four-year initiative to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the American Civil War. Actor Sam Rockwell narrates the film, which is directed by another Briton Adrian Moat.

Ridley Scott, who was interviewed while working on his highly anticipated "Prometheus" in London, credits Moat, but the Scotts' influence is apparent in the cutaways that explain the lethal qualities of new weaponry and, of course, the unflinching lens when metal meets flesh and bone.

"I think what Adrian went for was the hard facts, if you like, what it was like to be in the face of a hail of bullets, and also what it was like to face what essentially was new weapons," Scott said. "There was suddenly a leap forward in terms of weapons capability and exploding shells and things like that."

The battle, which blunted Confeder-

ate Gen. Robert E. Lee's bold invasion of the North, was fought from July 1-3, 1863, and pitted more than 165,000 troops battling in the rolling hills of Pennsylvania. Casualties totaled nearly 50,000, the most from a single battle in the 1861-1865 Civil War which began when pro-slavery Southern states seceded and formed the Confederacy.

"Gettysburg" includes commentary from Civil War scholars such as Edward Ayers, president of the University of Richmond, and camera trickery such as soaring overhead shots to explain battle strategies.

It also focuses on some of the big personalities of the battle, such as steely Lt. Col. Rufus Dawes on the Northern side and the Southern firebrand Brig. Gen. William Barksdale.

But the documentary also pays attention to the troops.

They include Sgt. Amos Humiston, a soldier from upstate New York who

died clutching a photograph of his children, and Pvt. Joseph C. Lloyd, a member of Barksdale's Mississippian Brigade.

"You hear about the generals. You don't hear about the lesser officers very often," Scott said. "You certainly don't hear about the ranks. It's nice to hear about the guys who are right on the front and doing the work."

The brothers, collectively working as Scott Free Productions, are the sons of a military man, though Ridley Scott downplays that.

"I'm an Englishman who did a film on Mogadishu, 'Black Hawk Down,'" Scott said of the 2001 film based on Mark Bowden's book about a deadly 1993 battle in the Somali capital between U.S. troops and a warlord's militiamen.

As for his father, "Dad entered the Second World War like any other man, trying to do the right thing." He rose to

brigadier general because of his knowledge of shipping and transportation and was involved in the planning of D-Day, Ridley Scott said.

Scott said his father, Francis Percy Scott, was an orderly man—a quality that seems to have taken hold in his son.

"His whole mindset on simplicity and order and reliability, I guess, kind of set into me. It's just part of my upbringing, part of my schooling," Scott said of his father.

Scott said unknown actors were purposely cast for "Gettysburg" to reinforce the realism. He credited Moat for directing the hellish battle scenes and not panicking "in the face of hundreds of people."

Scott said the Civil War remains relevant and worth revisiting 150 years later. And one of its causes—to end slavery—is a powerful call to arms, he said.

"It's wrong to say that war doesn't settle anything, because in this instance it did," he said. "It's a bit like why do we keep doing movies about Nazi Germany. Because it should never be forgotten."

Lindsay Lohan settles suit over 2007 highway chase

BEVERLY HILLS, California (AP)—Lindsay Lohan has settled a lawsuit filed by a woman who was chased by the actress in a pre-dawn pursuit that has haunted the actress in civil and criminal courts for nearly three years.

The starlet on Wednesday settled the lawsuit filed by Tracie Rice, who claimed she was traumatized and lost a well-paying job because of the incident, court records show.



Lohan

Rice was a passenger in a car driven by the mother of Lohan's former assistant, who the actress pursued down the scenic Pacific Coast Highway in July 2007. The chase ended with Lohan's arrest in the parking lot of a police department; Rice has said she thought the actress was trying to carjack her.

No details of the settlement, which was first reported Friday by celebrity website TMZ, were released.

"Lindsay is very pleased to put this unfortunate event behind her," her attorney, Ed McPherson, wrote in a statement.

Lohan was arrested twice for driving under the influence in 2007, and remains on probation for offenses. She has struggled to comply with the terms of her release, with three separate judges sending her to jail since July 2010.

The "Mean Girls" star was sentenced to four months in jail last month for violating her probation by taking a necklace without permission, and on Thursday surrendered to authorities and began serving her term on house arrest. She is expected to spend roughly 35 days on home confinement.

Abdul, Cowell getting along on 'X Factor,' for now

SINGAPORE (AP)—Paula Abdul said Friday her reunion with Simon Cowell on his new talent show is going great, for now.

"We're still in the honeymoon phase, which will probably only last another minute," the 48-year-old Abdul told reporters in Singapore. "Simon and I ended up having a wonderful, exquisite, challenging and frightening relationship."

The two famously bickering former "American Idol" judges will be joining forces again to assess would-be singing stars on Fox's "The X Factor," which taped its first judging session earlier this month and will debut this fall in the U.S.

Abdul is looking to bounce back from "Live to Dance," a talent competition series she starred that premiered on CBS in January and was a ratings disappointment.

The tension and teasing be-

tween Cowell and Abdul helped make "Idol" one of the most popular television shows. She left the show in 2009 over a contract dispute after eight seasons.

"This little show is probably going to be ginormous if it's anything like what Simon is capable of doing," Abdul said.

The American pop singer and dancer is in Singapore to promote a Universal Studios theme park.

Abdul, who was the leader of the Los Angeles Lakers dance troupe in the 1980s, said watching the basketball team lose in the playoffs earlier this month "hurt like pouring Tabasco sauce in an open wound." But the L.A. native predicted a swift return to glory for the Lakers, who have won 10 championships since 1980.

"The Lakers organization is fantastic," she said. "I never give up on them, ever."

Rep: Amy Winehouse checks into treatment program

NEW YORK (AP)—A representative for Amy Winehouse says the singer has checked into a treatment program in London.

Spokesman Chris Goodman said Friday that the 27-year-old songstress wants to be sure she's ready to perform in Europe this summer.

The rep says she'll stay at the clinic on "doctors' advice." It was not clear what treatment she'll get at the Priory Clinic. It offers treat-

ment for a range of psychiatric problems, as well as drug and alcohol addiction.



Winehouse

Winehouse's breakthrough disc, 2006's "Back to Black," won her five Grammy Awards and helped her achieve worldwide stardom, but her music has been overshadowed by drug use and legal run-ins.

Winehouse has not released much music since, but she performed a short tour in Brazil in January.

Shakira considering album in Arabic

RABAT, Morocco (AP)—Colombian pop singer Shakira said Saturday she would one day like to sing pop songs, if not an entire album, in Arabic.

The native Spanish speaker, who also has global hits in English, was speaking at a news conference in Morocco, where she was headlining the Mawazine World Rhythms music festival.

"It would be a challenge to do an album in Arabic. I would first have to learn Arabic," she said. "I am completely open to that experience. ... At some point I would love that to happen in my life."

Born in Colombia of Syrian

origin, Shakira said she grew up listening to the Arab world's premier divas of the 20th century, Egyptian Umm Kalthum and Lebanese Fairuz.

Shakira often uses eastern dance, also known as belly dancing, in her acts, and her hit Spanish language single "Ojas Asi" relies heavily on a Middle Eastern melody. Her eastern origins and musical influences have made her popular throughout the Middle East.

She admitted, however, that she only speaks a few words of Arabic, including "ateeni boosa" or give me a kiss, provoking laughter among the mostly Moroccan crowd of journalists.

Let us pause to remember those who died for freedom

DEAR ABBY: Memorial Day is not about war; it's about PEOPLE. It's about those dedicated individuals—most of them young—who died serving their country and their fellow Americans as well as future generations. In other words, all of us.

We Americans are at our best when we come together bonded by a noble purpose. And that's the reason for the National Moment of Remembrance on Memorial Day.

Abby, your patriotism and compassion have helped us in our effort to unite the more than 311 million Americans who live in this land of the free and home of the brave. Please remind your millions of readers to come together by pausing for a moment at 3 p.m. local time, wherever they are, to acknowledge the sacrifice of our fallen.

Unfortunately, too many of our citizens forget to remember. I am determined to find ways to help America continue to pay tribute to the nearly 2 million men and women who have died for us. Our freedoms should remind us of their sacrifice and our debt to them.

It is our duty to never forget them, to keep them in our hearts and in our actions. They were the best of the best—the pride of the USA. We owe them the commitment to reflect on what they did and to put remembrance into action. This means to give back to our country and to live honoring them every day, not just on Memorial Day.

Thank you for all you do to honor America's heroes.

CARMELLALASPADA, FOUNDER, NO GREATER LOVE

DEAR CARMELLA: You're welcome. I hope readers will heed your request to offer a silent tribute this afternoon to the men and women who have given their lives in the service of this country. Considering the magnitude of their sacrifice, it's the least we can do.

To all of my friends out there—please join me, as well as the iron workers, sheet metal workers, firefighters and painters unions and thousands of AFL-CIO members who have supported the Moment since its inception, in a moment of silence at 3 p.m. Today, as in the past, major league baseball games will stop, customers and staff will pause in more than 30,000 grocery stores throughout the country, and, of course, personnel serving in the military around the world will observe it, too. To learn what others are doing today, visit www.ngl.org.

May our fallen rest in peace; may our country once again live in peace as well.

DEAR ABBY: My daughter visited us for a week with her two children. The older one, "Wendy," age 9, was always "finding" money—in the parking lot, the driveway and other places. After they left, we discovered cash missing from our car and the savings jar in our house.

I called my daughter to inform her of our discovery, and in a nonchalant, what's-the-big-deal voice she said, "OK, Dad, how much did she take? I'll write a check."

I told her the money isn't the problem. The fact that Wendy is stealing is the problem. My daughter thinks I'm attacking my granddaughter and is no longer speaking to me. What should I do?

TAKEN BY SURPRISE IN OHIO

DEAR TAKEN BY SURPRISE: Clearly your phone call wasn't the first time your daughter has heard that Wendy has stolen. Whether the problem is lack of character, lack of parenting or an emotional issue, the child needs professional help. But unless her mother is willing to do more about it than write a check, there is nothing you or I can do to help your granddaughter. (If no corrective action is taken, I predict Mom will be writing bigger and bigger checks.)

You did the responsible thing by informing your daughter. As to what to do next, if they visit again, put any valuables under lock and key.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)



In this April 6, 2008 file photo, Randy Jackson, left, Paula Abdul, center, and Simon Cowell are seen on stage at the "Idol Gives Back" fund-raising special of "American Idol" in Los Angeles.

ENTERTAINMENT TIDBITS

Film on Bin Laden, Black Ops set for 2012 release

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Kathryn Bigelow and Mark Boal's movie about the Black Ops hunt for Osama Bin Laden is set for release next year. Columbia Pictures, which acquired the domestic distribution rights to the film earlier this week, says the untitled movie will come out at the end of 2012. Bigelow and Boal each won a pair of Oscars for producing, directing and writing last year's best picture, "The Hurt Locker." The two began developing the film about the Black Ops' mission to capture Bin Laden in 2008. Co-Chairman of Sony Pictures Entertainment Amy Pascal says Bigelow

and Boal "have an outstanding perspective on the team that was hunting the most wanted man in the world."

'Taxi,' 'Grease' star Jeff Conaway dies at 60

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Jeff Conaway, who starred in the sitcom "Taxi," played swaggering Kenickie in the movie musical "Grease" and publicly battled drug and alcohol addiction on "Celebrity Rehab," died Friday. He was 60. The actor was taken off life support Thursday and died Friday morning at Encino Tarzana Medical Center, according to one of his managers, Kathryn Boole. "It's sad that people remember his struggle with drugs. ... He has touched

so many people," she said, calling Conaway a kind and intelligent man who was well read and "always so interesting to talk to. We respected him as an artist and loved him as a friend." Family members, including Conway's sisters, nieces and nephews, and his minister, were with him when he died, Boole said.

Staff says to reject U2 guitarist's proposal

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Officials for the state agency that oversees coastal development has for a second time recommended denying a controversial development proposal led by U2 guitarist The Edge for a cluster of mansions overlooking Malibu.

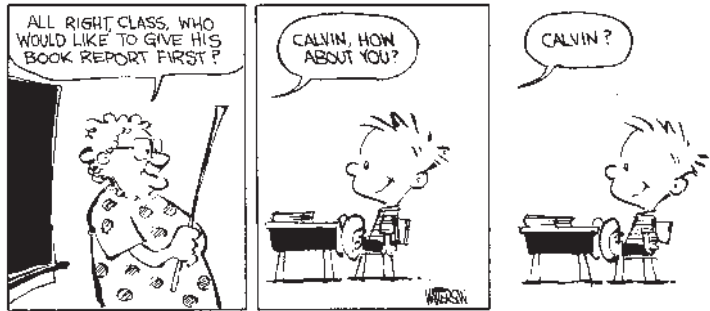
California Coastal Commission staff on Friday recommended that the board reject the project's application at its June meeting. In February, officials made the same recommendation before the item was pulled from the agenda at the request of the musician and his partners. The proposal involving the musician, whose real name is David Evans, includes five multilevel homes of up to 12,785 square feet (1,187 sq. meters) to be built on 156 acres (63 hectares) in the Santa Monica Mountains. Opponents of the project, including the National Park Service, however, have argued that the project will have considerable biological and visual impacts in such sensitive habitat.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson Garfield®

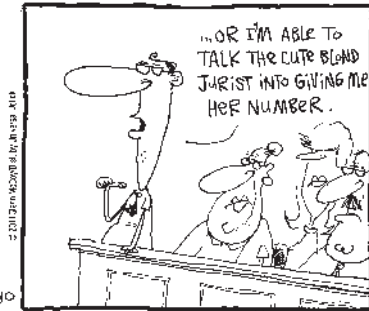
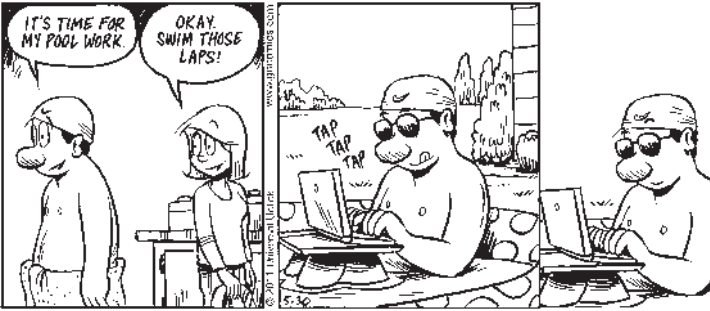
By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 1 Ballet skirt 5 "A pox upon thee!" 8 Sore 12 Micro-wave, for one 13 Praise in verse 14 Comrade of Mao 15 Clothing store section 16 Attendance check 18 Wolf in the hen-house? 20 "Yes" or "no" follower 21 Settled down 23 — generis 24 Com-mand to Fido 28 Being, to Brutus 31 Historic time 32 Elaine's surname on "Seinfeld"

34 Wire measure 35 Air outlet 37 Price reduction 39 Baseball hat 41 Actor Julia 42 Antarctic volcano 45 Now 49 Race drivers' protectors 51 Lumber 52 Reed instru-ment 53 Fish eggs 54 "Do — others ..." 55 Collec-tions

56 Do sums 57 Equal

DOWN 1 Grant's — 2 Eye layer 3 Be inclined (to) 4 Open 5 Let-bygones-be-bygones type 6 Wedding words 7 Morays and congers 8 Accumu-late 9 Special appeal

10 Aperture 11 Christ-mas 17 Fleur-de- — 19 Amor-phous mass 22 Male voice 24 Churchly title (Abbr.) 25 Raw rock 26 Trusted knight 27 Got sick again 29 Bracket-ed notation 30 Wapiti 33 Insult 36 Restau-rant furniture 38 Enlarge a photo 40 Saloon 42 Love god 43 Pajama cover-up 44 Poet Teasdale 46 Zilch 47 Carry 48 Smell 50 Scepter

Solution time: 24 mins.

Saturday's answer 5-30

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Cee-Lo, 37; Idina Menzel, 40; Wynonna Judd, 47; Ted McGinley, 53

Happy Birthday: There will be financial opportunities, and setting up a new budget will enable you to follow through with your current goals. Don't underestimate what you can do. A sideline business or a skill can be transformed into a lucrative service. The possibilities are limitless if you let your imagination lead the way. Your numbers are 8, 13, 23, 34, 36, 40, 42

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Patience will be required when dealing with people who are demanding or trying to shirk responsibilities. Observe and assess the situation before you take action and you will avoid a personal or financial mishap. ***

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You'll be inclined to overreact to any complaints or comments made but must not take anything said too personally. A little constructive criticism can help you. A couple of last-minute changes will lead to an interesting proposal. ***

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Quick decisions must be based on fact, not fiction. Push through any deals or settlements you have on the table before someone backs out. Money or a gift is heading in your direction. Protect your interests and assets. ***

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Keep things moving along at a steady pace. Speeding up or slowing down might cost you dearly. Not everyone will be forthright when it comes to sharing vital information. Don't let an unusual demand cause you to

change your plans. ****

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Keep close tabs on what everyone around you is doing. You don't want to be the one to look bad if something doesn't go according to plan. A professional problem or trouble with a co-worker must be kept in check. Uncertainty regarding a change will turn out in your favor. **

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Social net-working will lead to interesting connections that can benefit you personally and professionally. You don't have to overspend to make a good impression. It's what you do and say that will count. *****

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Don't let uncertainty regarding a partnership cause you to procrastinate or back down when you should be moving toward a set goal. Make a change at home that will help you financially, even if it requires you to adjust emotionally. ***

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You'll have plenty of options and lots to work with if you follow your heart and your creative imagination. Alterations within a relationship or where you live will benefit you. Love and romance are highlighted. ***

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Rely on your past experience and connections to see you through troubled times at work. A change to your residence or living arrangements will turn out to be beneficial. Expand your circle of friends through social networks. ***

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Everything you want is within reach. All you have to do is let everyone know

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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what you want. A chance to make money through a residential move or a change to your home is apparent. Love is on the rise and an intimate evening should be planned. *****

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Not everyone you meet will be on your side or help you out. Don't believe everything you hear and avoid anyone who is promising the impossible. Make adjustments to your home that will better suit your needs. **

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Remember your past goals, friends and business associates and you will find ways to utilize all three to get what you want now. The timing for something you may have failed at in the past is better now. An interview will lead to a new beginning. *****

Birthday Baby: You are proactive, but patient and tolerant with others. You stick to your beliefs and are disciplined and productive.

Eugenia's Web sites: eugenialast.com for confidential consultations, myspace.com/eugenialast for Eugenia's blog, astroadvice.com for fun

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

Difficulty Level ★

5/30

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Saturday's SUDOKU Answer

Difficulty Level *****

WONDERWORD By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

JUNIPER BERRIES Solution: 10 letters

S R E T T I B A N A E P P E D
N B S D S T I U R F N U E G K
I L U E I E E E P O R K N A R
G A I R T B A D D P M I O B A
D C R Q H A L L L I H A C B D
R K E R U S N E P S S E L A N
U A L A D O I I I T P P C U
P R I G E E R U R L N E I I O
A T E U I G G R L A E E W C R
C H V S N N R R O B M A L S E
E R E O I I C E E V T E K E
O I R T I N Q I E M A E A E R
U T S M A L L U X N E L E T O
S I N T E N S E E O R S F W S
D S A U E R K R A U T R E E S

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Alpine, Aroma, Arthritis, Bitter, Black, Bluish, Cabbage, Cone, Dark, Deppena, Distinguishing, Drupaceous, Edible, Flavor, Fruits, Gins, Green, Intense, Lamb, Liquor, Marinates, Meats, Merged, Oils, Order, Pork, Purple, Relieve, Resin, Ripe, Round, Sauerkraut, Seed, Shrubs, Side, Small, Spice, Stews, Strong, Sugar, Sweet, Toxic, Treatment, Trees, Unique

Last Saturday's Answer: Planning

Words: TIT COLICITUS NOCTIFUGUS, 4-14, 26, 28, 29, 30 and 31; 10-14, 16, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

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Saipan Tribune

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ATTORNEYS FOR Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN
MARIANA ISLANDS

THE FINANCIAL & INSURANCE SERVICES GROUP, INC., Plaintiff,
-v-
DONALD C. CAMACHO, Defendant.

CIVIL ACTION NO. 09-0458
NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on May 4, 2011, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to the following property: Lot No. 001 C 60 (formerly part of Lot 001 C 56, which was part of Lot 001 C 26, which was part of original Lot 001 C 05, 05, T.D. 697), situated in San Roque Village, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 001 C 12., the original of which was recorded 27 August 1999 as Document No. 99-2037, at the Commonwealth recorder's Office, Saipan.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, June 03, 2011, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 6th day of May, 2011:

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

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All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.



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Messi's Barcelona beats Man United in finals



Barcelona's Lionel Messi, left, and Manchester United's Antonio Valencia in action during their Champions League final soccer match at Wembley Stadium, London, Saturday, May 28, 2011. AP



WEMBLEY, England (AP)—The debate is over now. Barcelona is on the list of soccer's all-time greatest teams.

Led by another dominant performance from Lionel Messi, the Catalan club beat Manchester United, 3-1, on Saturday to earn its third Champions League title in six seasons and No. 4 overall.

"I feel privileged," Barcelona coach Pep Guardiola said. "You always want to win, but the way we have won is what I am most proud of. This is the way we want to play football."

"Lionel is the best player I have seen and probably the best I will ever see."

Messi was typically subdued in his celebration.

"I'm very happy about the match," Messi said. "We were the better team. We deserved to win."

Messi put Barcelona ahead to stay with his 53rd goal and helped create another score to give the Spanish league champion some breathing room.

Barcelona dominated play at Wemb-

ley Stadium with its trademark one-touch passing, but it needed the Argentine striker to conjure a 54th-minute solo strike from the edge of the penalty area to take the lead for the second time.

There seemed to be no space as Messi was tracked by fullback Patrice Evra. But the two-time world player of the year spotted a gap between the central defenders and hit a shot down the middle, beating goalkeeper Edwin van der Sar.

Messi added a fake and run that led to David Villa taking possession on the edge of the area. From there, the Spain striker curled a shot into the top corner of the net.

"They do mesmerize you with their passing and we never really did control Messi," United manager Alex Ferguson said. "But many people have said that."

"In my time as manager, it's the best team I've faced."

Soccer commentators had said before the game that Barcelona, which already had won a third straight Spanish league title, would be ranked among the sport's truly great teams with a victory over United. Now, with four Euro-

pean titles, only Liverpool, AC Milan and Barcelona's fierce rival Real Madrid have won more.

With Pedro Rodriguez scoring the opening goal midway through the first half on an imaginative through ball from Xavi Hernandez, the win was as comprehensive as Barcelona's 2-0 victory over United in the 2009 final in Rome.

"When Rome finished, I thought we had played a good game, but when I looked at it again I wasn't that impressed," Guardiola said. "But it has served its purpose."

"I think we played much better than the game two years ago."

Guardiola now has won 10 titles—including two European Cups—in three years.

Wayne Rooney's goal in the 34th minute left it tied at 1 at halftime. Rooney carried the ball to the edge of the area, slipping it to Ryan Giggs. Giggs knocked it back, giving Rooney the perfect opportunity to curl a shot past goalkeeper Victor Valdes at the far post.

Barcelona's performance was so comfortable that Guardiola was able to

bring on regular captain Carles Puyol for the last few moments, giving the oft-injured defender the chance to play a part in a memorable triumph.

But in a gesture symbolizing Barcelona's team ethic, Puyol handed the armband over to Eric Abidal. His place on the team had been in doubt after he had surgery this season to remove a liver tumor—and the France defender lifted the famous trophy.

"Players are human beings," Guardiola said. "Carles has made a great gesture and it has made us stronger."

After a shaky opening, Barcelona simply outclassed the English cham-

pions. Xavi, standing in as captain for Puyol, orchestrated play from in front of Sergio Busquets, while Andres Iniesta and Messi hurt United with pinpoint passing.

"This is the reason I came to Barcelona," Villa said. "I'm very happy, very satisfied. We have a team with ambition, a team with the will to win."

United could do little to disrupt Barcelona, the prevailing force of European soccer.

"They were the better team so we can't really argue," United's Rio Ferdinand said. "They're a great side with great players."

Palmer has lead over Garcia after three rounds



IRVING, Texas (AP)—Ryan Palmer sat down after finishing his third round and put his head down on the table. He was exhausted—and still leading—after a 3-over 73 on a gusty day at the Byron Nelson Championship.

The Texas native who made the cut only once in his first seven appearances at Lord Byron's tournament, took a one-stroke lead over Sergio Garcia into the final round after surviving a sun-soaked but brutal day for scoring Saturday at TPC Four Seasons.

"We chalked it up as a hard day of golf," Palmer said. "If you had told me Thursday I was going to have a one-shot lead, I would have called you a liar and said whatever. But my bad round is out of the way, I think, and I still lead by one."

Even with two bogeys the last three holes, Palmer finished a stroke ahead of playing partner Garcia after the two started the day tied.

Garcia shot a 74 while also making bogeys at the 16th and 18th holes, where he missed makable putts.

"It was definitely hard. At the same time I have to say I got nothing out of my round," Garcia said. "I could not shoot one shot higher than I did. So if you look at it that way, and I'm only one shot behind Ryan, and I have tomorrow, I think it's pretty positive."

The last three holes at TPC Four Seasons played into the wind, sustained all day at 25 mph with gusts near 40.

"Obviously the scores show how hard it was," Palmer said. "Bad, hard day, that is for sure. I hit it pretty good I felt, but it's hard to hit some of these tee balls... Just a hard round of golf."

Conditions are expected to be similar for the final round Sunday.

Only eight of 74 players shot under par Saturday, and there were no bogey-free rounds. The best round was a 67 by Argon Atwal that tied him with Ryuji Imada (70) for third place at 3 under.

"Par's really good on every hole, and I'm just lucky to shoot 67," Atwal said after his round with six birdies and three bogeys. "You catch the wrong gust and you could be in serious trouble."

Garcia missed a 5-foot par putt on the 535-yard 16th hole, where Palmer also bogeyed after missing the fairway with his tee shot.

Palmer, who is letting caddie James Edmondson call the shots this week, missed the fairway again at

No. 18 and two-putted from 27 feet once he got on the green. Garcia hit his drive way right and still had a chance to convert an 8 1/2-foot par-saver that would have put him back in a share for the lead.

Garcia began the week with an infected fingernail on his left ring finger that forced him to withdraw from a British Open qualifier after just five holes. He didn't have any practice rounds at TPC Four Seasons before opening with consecutive 66s.

Gary Woodland and Matt Kuchar shot 68s and were tied with Joe Ogilvie (72) for fifth at 2 under.

"You've got trees and rough and greens that are built for not a lot of wind," Ogilvie said. "And undulations, and it's like the movie 'Planes, Trains & Automobiles,' you've got a lot going on here."

Local amateur Jordan Spieth opened with consecutive birdies before going on to a 72. He was among eight players tied for eighth place, only four strokes behind Palmer.

"I was like all right, who knows what can happen, who says you can't shoot 5, 6 under today," Spieth said. "And then reality kind of kicked in."

Spieth's round ended about 4 p.m., the same time the other 245 boys in his senior class at Dallas Jesuit Prep were beginning their graduation ceremony on the SMU campus about 20 miles away. Spieth didn't try to make it to the ceremony, also near where Cowboys quarterback Tony Romo was getting married.

It is the second year in a row that the 17-year-old Spieth made the cut at the Nelson. Going into the final round last season, he was tied for seventh six strokes back. He tied for 16th, six strokes behind winner Jason Day.

Palmer had a bogey at No. 6 where his first two shots found the rough before a two-putt from 19 feet. He got that stroke back with his only birdie, a 9-footer at No. 10.

"The front nine, I was actually kind of cruising along, not letting the wind bother me," Palmer said. "It got tougher and tougher. ... The last five holes are tough enough on a calm day. I don't feel like I played that bad. It was a hard day of golf."

This is the third time Palmer has shared or been in the lead alone going into the final round. He won at the Sony Open in Hawaii in 2010, the last of his three PGA Tour victories, and finished second at the WGC-Bridgestone Invitational last season.

LeBron 'gracious, humbled' by Jordan comparison



MIAMI (AP)—Scottie Pippen said LeBron James may be basketball's greatest player ever.

Among those who disagree: LeBron James.

The Miami Heat forward provided his reaction to Pippen's comparison between James and Michael Jordan on Saturday, essentially saying he was flattered by the sentiment but simply does not believe he's done enough to merit mention among the game's highest echelon.

"I'm not better than Jordan," James said.

Pippen—who won six championships alongside Jordan in Chicago during the Bulls' epic run in the

1990s—told ESPN Radio on Friday that while Jordan is "probably the greatest scorer to play the game," James "may be the greatest player to ever play the game."

Pippen even backed up the comments later on Twitter, hours after his words sparked a bit of a firestorm, though tried to clarify a bit by saying that while he thinks Jordan "is the greatest," James "could" reach that pinnacle in time.

James seemed mildly uncomfortable by the discussion.

"Michael's an unbelievable player," James said Saturday. "I've got a long way—long way—to be mentioned as far as one of the all-time

greats. Not even just Jordan. There's a lot of great players who have played in this league. Larry Bird, Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, all these guys who are floating around with multiple rings, Bill Russell, all these guys who have pioneered this game."

"I'm gracious. Humbled by Scottie's comments, especially with him being a teammate of his and seeing Michael on a day-to-day basis. But as far as me, I'm not going to sit here and say I'm better than Jordan. I'm not better than Jordan."

James is four wins away from his first NBA championship. The Heat host the Dallas Mavericks in Game 1 of the NBA finals on Tuesday night.

Djokovic, Nadal, Sharapova win easily in Paris



PARIS (AP)—What was shaping up as a struggle for Novak Djokovic at the French Open suddenly turned into something of a stroll.

Tied at a set apiece with big-hitting 2009 U.S. Open champion Juan Martin del Potro when play was suspended because of darkness a night earlier, Djokovic quickly faced two break points Saturday. He saved those, then broke del Potro in the next game, and that was pretty much that.

"If he serves well, he can beat anybody, really," Djokovic said. "I went (into) the match a bit more nervous than usual."

If that's so, it didn't really show. Djokovic completed a 6-3, 3-6, 6-3, 6-2 victory in the third round, pushing his 2011 record to 40-0 and stretching his winning streak to 42 matches overall, including two Davis Cup matches in December.

"He was much better than me," said the 25th-seeded del Potro, a semifinalist in Paris two years ago. "He has everything; everything perfect. He has very good movement. He's very fast. He's improved his serve. He's beating all the players very, very easy, and I'm one more victim of his game."

Djokovic's 42-match run is tied for the third-longest by a man in the Open era, which began in 1968; Guillermo Vilas won 46 in a row in 1977. And Djokovic is off to the second-best start to a season, trailing only John McEnroe's 42-0 in 1984.

As it happens, the 24-year-old Serb ran into McEnroe at Roland Garros on Sat-



Novak Djokovic of Serbia celebrates scoring a point against Juan Martin del Potro of Argentina in his third round match at the French Open tennis tournament in Roland Garros stadium in Paris, Saturday May 28, 2011. Djokovic won in four sets, 6-3, 3-6, 6-3, 6-2.

urday, and they chatted. Asked whether McEnroe was one of his favorite players, Djokovic replied with a smile: "Nothing against his age, but it's just that I was still quite young when he stopped playing."

McEnroe said recently he finds Djokovic's streak more impressive than his own, because of the current depth in men's tennis, and because it includes a Grand Slam title - at January's Australian Open, which was played at season's end in 1984.

Djokovic, who will be in action for a third straight day Sunday when he faces No. 13 Richard Gasquet of France, said a third major championship - and first at the French Open - takes priority over any other possible goal at the moment. If he gets to the final, he'll take over the No. 1 ranking from Rafael Nadal.

Djokovic is 4-0 this year against Nadal, including wins in two clay-court tournament finals this month, and some have speculated those results chipped away at the Spaniard's self-belief. Nadal felt much better about himself and his game after reaching the fourth round by beating Croatian qualifier Antonio Veic, 6-1, 6-3, 6-0.

"Solutions don't come from heaven. I mean, you can't change everything in one day. And you know what? I had not forgotten how to play tennis for a week, but I played better today," said Nadal, who was pushed to five sets in the first round.

He's 41-1 in his French Open career and bidding to tie Bjorn Borg's mark of six titles at the clay-court Grand Slam tournament.

The man Nadal beat for trophy No. 5 in last year's final, Robin Soderling, also reached the fourth round, as did

three-time Grand Slam runner-up Andy Murray, No. 15 Viktor Troicki, No. 18 Gilles Simon, and unseeded Ivan Ljubicic, who eliminated No. 16 Fernando Verdasco 6-3, 7-6 (6), 6-4 and meets Nadal on Monday.

"There is no question that his confidence is shaken," Ljubicic said about Nadal. "You see him in the locker room. He's saying it. He's not hiding it."

No. 4 Murray got past Michael Berrer of Germany 6-2, 6-3, 6-2 despite badly twisting his right ankle while chasing a drop shot in the second set, then said he wasn't sure if he could play his next match.

Berrer chastised himself for not taking advantage.

"I should have hurt him when he's down, but that's difficult for me. So I was feeling sorry for him," Berrer said. "I need to be tougher. Like, in Germany, we have a saying that 'an injured deer has to fall.' So that was what I should have done today."

France's Simon beat No. 10 Mardy Fish 6-3, 6-4, 6-2. That result, plus Vania King's 6-4, 6-2 loss to No. 9 Petra Kvitova of the Czech Republic, mean there are zero U.S. men or women left in the singles draws as the tournament enters Week 2.

Only one other time in the Open era were there no Americans in the round of 16 at a Grand Slam tournament - the 1973 Australian Open, when no one from the United States entered the field.

Twenty-eight of the 32 players still around in both fields are from Europe. That includes three Russian women who won Saturday: No. 7 Maria Sharapova, No. 25 Maria Kirilenko and unseeded Ekaterina Makarova.

Brewers beat Giants on suicide squeeze



MILWAUKEE (AP)—Jonathan Lucroy's bases-loaded suicide squeeze scored Ryan Braun in the ninth, lifting the Milwaukee Brewers to a 3-2 win over the San Francisco Giants in the National League on Saturday.

Braun and Prince Fielder opened with consecutive singles off Guillermo Mota (2-2) in the ninth and moved up on a groundout before an intentional walk loaded the bases.

Pinch-hitter Lucroy's then delivered a well-executed bunt, out of the reach of Mota and Braun easily scored.

The Brewers had squandered a 2-0 lead after the Giants scored twice in the eighth.

Brewers reliever John Axford (1-1) pitched the ninth, taking the win.

Phillies 5, Mets 2

In New York, Ryan Howard hit a tie-breaking double in the eighth inning and Philadelphia went on beat New York.

Phillies starter Cole Hamels (7-2) struck out a season-high 10 and walked none over seven innings to win his third straight outing and improve to 3-9 in 15 career games against the Mets. He had lost five consecutive starts against them.

Rockies 15, Cardinals 4

In Denver, Chris Iannetta homered twice and drove in a career-high six runs as Colorado routed St. Louis.

The hard-throwing Juan Nicasio (1-0) pitched seven solid innings, conceding just one unearned run in his recall from the minors.

Nicasio may have just made a compelling case to stick around a while longer as the Rockies tinker with their rotation in the wake of the season-ending elbow injury to Jorge De La Rosa.

Braves 7, Reds 6, 12 innings

In Atlanta, Chipper Jones' single in the 12th inning drove in Jordan Schafer to give Atlanta victory over weary Cincinnati.

It was the second extra-inning game in four days for the Reds, who lost 19 innings in Philadelphia on Wednesday.

Carlos Fisher (0-2) walked Schafer to lead off the 12th. Fisher, working his second inning after throwing 5 2-3 innings Wednesday, also walked Martin Prado.

Marlins 6, Dodgers 1

In Los Angeles, Greg Dobbs and Wes Helms each drove in two runs in Florida's defeat of Los Angeles.

Gaby Sanchez doubled twice and scored twice for the Marlins.

There was a small fire in a storage area during the fifth inning, causing an evacuation of the immediate area, with some fans being relocated.

Edward Mujica (5-2), the second of five Marlins pitchers, allowed one hit over two scoreless innings and struck out four to get the victory.

Dodgers starter Hiroki Kuroda (5-5) pitched 5 1-3 innings and allowed five runs.

Diamondbacks 11, Astros 3

In Houston, Zach Duke pitched seven strong innings and hit a three-run homer in his first game of the season, leading

Arizona over Houston.

Duke's first home run in seven major league seasons came off Bud Norris (2-4) in the Diamondbacks' four-run fourth inning.

Duke (1-0) missed Arizona's first 51 games while recovering from a broken hand suffered in spring training. He prevented the Astros getting a hit until the fourth.

Pittsburgh 10, Cubs 0

In Chicago, Paul Maholm pitched a shutout to record his first victory in a month and guide Pittsburgh to a big win over Chicago.

Maholm (2-7) got his third career shutout in a place he's always pitched well. He is 8-2 in 15 career starts against the Cubs, including 6-2 in 11 starts at Wrigley Field.

Ronny Cedeno, Lyle Overbay, Chris Snyder and Andrew McCutchen each homered for the Pirates.

Padres 2, Nationals 1

In Washington, Tim Stauffer pitched seven innings for his first win of the season, leading San Diego to a tight victory over Washington.

Stauffer (1-3) limited the Nationals to one run to win for the first time in 11 starts. Heath Bell worked the ninth for his 11th save.

Indians 7, Rays 3

In Florida, Shelley Duncan and Orlando Cabrera each had two RBIs as the Cleveland Indians beat the Tampa Bay Rays 7-3 on Saturday, extending their lead in the American League Central to a surprising 6-1/2 games.

Duncan, who was pinch-hitting, and Cabrera both had two-run singles during the eighth to put Cleveland ahead 7-2. Duncan had a bases-loaded drive off J.P. Howell that hit the left-field wall, but he was held to a single because it looked like outfielder Sam Fuld might catch the ball.

Blue Jays 9, White Sox 8, 14 innings

In Toronto, Corey Patterson hit a game-ending homer in the 14th inning to lift Toronto over Chicago.

Patterson, who tied a career high with five hits, led off the 14th with a drive to right off Gavin Floyd (5-5) for his third homer of the season. It was the fourth game-winning homer of his career.

Floyd pitched seven innings in Texas on Wednesday but was called out of the bullpen in the 13th, his first relief appearance since 2007.

Jose Bautista also went long, for his majors-leading 20th homer of the season.

Blue Jays left-hander Luis Perez (1-0) pitched 3 2-3 shutout innings for his first career win.

Rangers 10, Royals 1

In Arlington, Texas, Mitch Moreland, Mike Napoli and Endy Chavez hit consecutive homers to match a club record, powering Texas past Kansas City.

Three straight Rangers homered for the fifth time in club history. It hadn't happened since 2004 and was the first time any team had done it this season.

Texas' Matt Harrison (5-4) pitched six shutout innings, walking only one.

Twins 1, Angels 0, 10 innings

In Minneapolis, Danny Valencia hit a

bases-loaded single in the bottom of the 10th inning, lifting Minnesota over Los Angeles.

The teams combined for only three hits until the decisive 10th, when Valencia lobbed a flyball over the right fielder's head.

Twins starter Anthony Swarzak, a late fill-in for Francisco Liriano (shoulder), didn't give up a hit until the eighth.

Athletics 4, Orioles 2

In Oakland, Coco Crisp had two hits and drove in the go-ahead run to help the Athletics beat the Orioles.

Mark Ellis hit a home run and Josh Willingham and Kevin Kouzmanoff also drove in runs for the A's, who have won four of their last five following a season-high six-game losing streak.

Adam Jones and Craig Tatum each drove in runs for the Orioles, who have lost 11 of their last 12 games in Oakland.

Mariners 5, Yankees 4, 12 innings

In Seattle, Adam Kennedy scored pinch-runner Luis Rodriguez with a bloop single off Mariano Rivera in the bottom of the 12th and the Seattle Mariners won for the ninth time in 10 games.

Rivera (1-1) made career appearance No. 1,001 in the 12th inning and gave up a one-out bloop single by Justin Smoak and a double by Jack Cust. Rodriguez replaced Smoak as a pinch-runner at third, and after Franklin Gutierrez was intentionally walked to load the bases, Kennedy dumped an 0-1 pitch in front of Curtis Granderson in center field to score Rodriguez.

David Pauley (notes) (4-0) worked two innings of relief to get the victory.

Mobil, Smart Cagers prevail in QQ Car Rental Cup

By **WALTER CEPEDA-SUTHERLAND**
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REPORTER



Mobil and Smart Cagers notched lopsided wins over separate opponents in the 2011 QQ Car Rental Basketball Invitational Cup last Friday at the Garapan Basketball Court.

Mobil started slow in the curtain raiser, but went on to rout Rollers Happiness, 78-61, while Smart Cagers built an early lead over Prospects and ran up the scoreboard, 89-62.

Happiness had a 19-13 edge over Mobil thanks to the former's good ball movement in the opening quarter. However, Mobil recovered in the second quarter and managed a 35-28 lead at the half.

Mobil's Larry Sharry and Angelo Fernando led the charge in the second canto, making six points apiece as they outscored the entire Happiness crew, who was held to nine markers in that period.

Then after the break, it was Ron Gamboa's turn to deliver for Mobil, scoring eight points in the third quarter and lifting the defending champion to a 56-41 lead, with only one quarter to go.

In the fourth period, Marvin Rabauliman provided eight markers in the clutch for Mobil, helping his team hang on to the driver's seat. Rabauliman went on to finish with a game-high 23 points, while Happiness' Brandon Aurelio managed 20 in the loss.

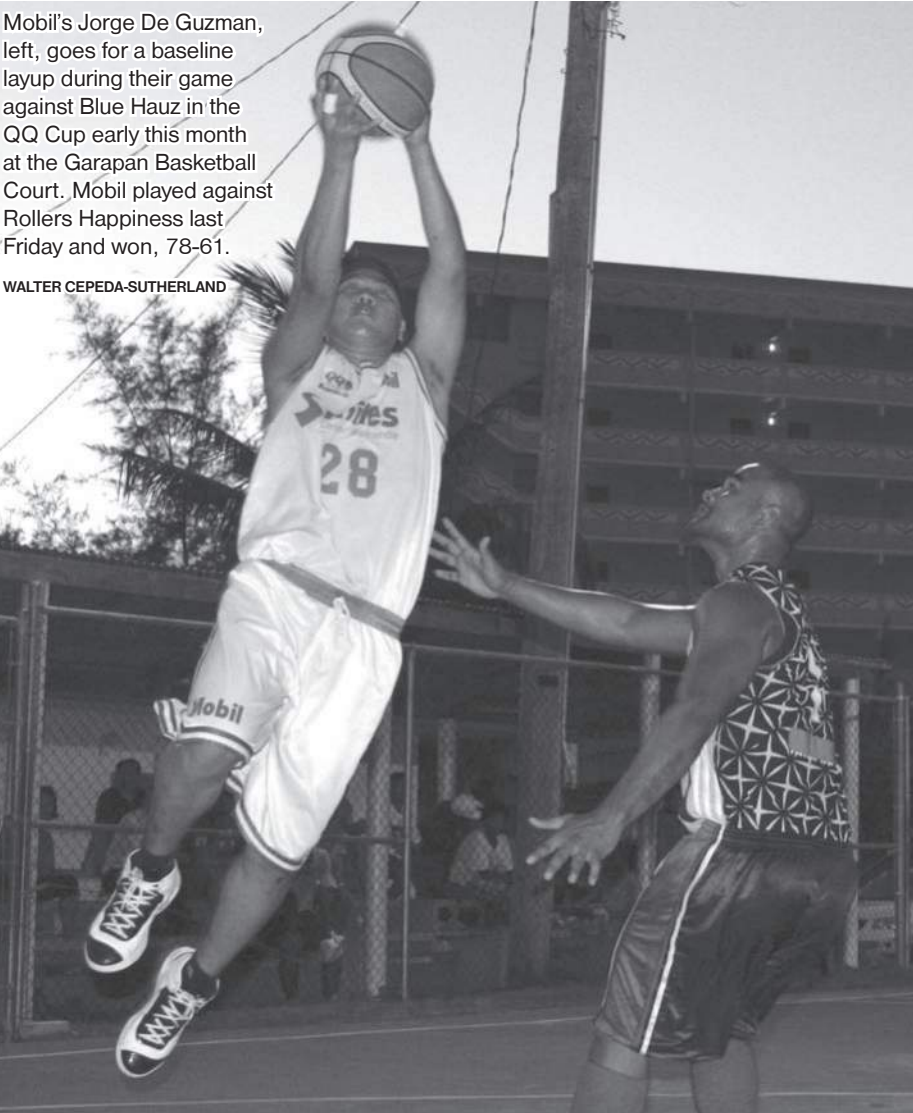
In the second match of the night, Smart Cagers jumped to a quick 17-9 advantage in the first period, as they had five players making it to the scoreboard.

Prospects' offense picked up bit in the second quarter, but Smart Cagers nailed two late treys in that canto to maintain a good lead at the break, 38-26.

Then Smart Cagers' Errol Peredo and Manolo Manolo combined for 11 markers in the third period to stretch the advantage to 19, 60-41, heading into the final quarter. With the game already out of reach, Smart Cagers buried two more three-pointers and

Mobil's Jorge De Guzman, left, goes for a baseline layup during their game against Blue Hauz in the QQ Cup early this month at the Garapan Basketball Court. Mobil played against Rollers Happiness last Friday and won, 78-61.

WALTER CEPEDA-SUTHERLAND



five free throws in the fourth period to complete the rout.

Darwin Barbo top-scored for Smart Cagers with 20 points, while Peredo chipped in 18. Jun Abedes led Prospects with his 19 markers.

First Game

Mobil 78 – Rabauliman 23, Fernando 16, Gamboa 14, Sharry 8, De Guzman 7, Estolas 6, Ruluked 4.

Happiness 61 – Aurelio 20, Cabrera 11, Brennan 8, Torres 8, Cruz 4, DLGuerrero 4,

Namelo 4.

Scoring by quarters: 13-19, 35-28, 56-41, 78-61.

Second Game

Smart Cagers 89 – Barbo 20, Peredo 18, Manolo 15, De Dios 11, Dayrit 9, P. Iguel 9, R. Usi 5, Sacramento 2.

Prospects 62 – Abedes 19, Aquino 13, Bautista 6, P. Inos 6, Jo. Mina 6, Jr. Mina 4, Atalig 3, Saplan 2.

Scoring by quarters: 17-9, 38-26, 60-43, 89-62.

TKK 2

From Page 28

short best-of-three championship series and hand the Tigers another loss. TKK 2 also beat the Tigers in the battle for the pennant three weekends ago.

Shortstop Toi Celis hit the game-winning shot in the closely fought Game 1 and Roy Celis made two defensive stops in the homestretch to move TKK 2 a win away from clinching the championship.

The game was tied after five and a half innings, 10-all. Phil

Celis then led off for TKK 2 at the bottom of the sixth and flied out to center. Roy Celis was next at bat, had a single, and later made it home together with Toi Celis, who blasted a two-run homer for TKK's 12-10 lead.

At the top of the seventh, Jerry Deleon Guerrero flied out for Tigers, while Gloyd Martin had a walk to keep their hopes alive. However, Martin was left stranded at first when TKK 2 centered fielder Roy Celis caught fly balls from Vince Cepeda and J.D. Dikito.

The Tigers led in the first

three innings of Game 1, but lost the series opener when TKK 2's defense shut them out in the last four innings.

While TKK 2 needed a last-minute push to win Game 1, Game 2 was an easy cruise for the eventual champion. TKK 2 held the Tigers scoreless in the first two innings and allowed the latter to no more than one run in each of the five remaining frames to sweep the finals.

The Tigers scored one run in the third inning off Jay Camacho's sacrifice fly, also one run in the fifth off Deleon Guerrero's single, and the

final run in the sixth of Vince Cepeda's double.

TKK 2 started slowed with three runs in the first two innings before breaking the game wide open in the next two frames, combining for 14 runs. Toi Celis and Julian Camacho led that rally with two homers apiece, while Manny Sablan and Joey Dela Cruz made one homer each. Julian Camacho went on to finish Game 2 with three homers and five RBIs, while Sablan had two round-trippers and four RBIs. Toi Celis posted seven RBIs to lead TKK 2.

and then topped Week 3 with 23 points. Kagman tallied 14 and four points in the first two weeks and then logged 19 in Week 3.

The Dolphins boys canoe team is composed of Mike Tenorio, Jason Pangelinan, Jason Limes, David Ayuyu, Lyle Deleon Guerrero, Chad Hamilton, Mike Johnson, Brian Dela Cruz, and Jake Deleon Guerrero. Bobby Cruz and Scott Hayden are the Dolphins coaches.

Results of the girls races will be published in Saipan Tribune's Tuesday edition.

DOLPHINS

From Page 28

in the 1,500m preliminary race. The Dolphins completed the longest race of the day in nine minutes, 28.04 seconds o beat Southern (9:34.31) and Kagman High School (9:35.17).

In the finals, MHS was still the top finisher to get 20 more points. The Dolphins timed in at 9:42.04 against Southern's 9:52.56 and Kagman's 9:53.32.

The last race of the day was the 500m. The Dolphins came

in only at second place behind Kagman to win six points. The Ayuyus made it to the finish line at the 2:50.41 mark, followed by MHS at 2:52.84 and Southern (2:54.99).

Then in the 500m finals, the Dolphins and Ayuyus switched place with the former taking first place with a time of 2:49.28 against the latter's 2:50.86. Going into the 500m finals, MHS was ahead by only eight points against Southern, 83-75, but with the Dolphins placing first in the last race they earned 20 more

points, while the third placer Southern got only eight to drop to second overall.

Kagman finished third overall with its 71 points, but was second to MHS in Week 4 with its 34 points.

Southern led in the first three weeks of the competition before collapsing in the final and most important week. The Rays collected 28 points in Week 1 and 10 and 18 in the next two weekend races. The Dolphins had 18 points in Week 1 for second place, six in Week 2 for second, too,

SAIPAN

From Page 28

to beat Tinian in the battle for the second and last finals seat, 14-6, and the hosts will play Saipan in the championship today at 10am.

MAJOR DIVISION Saipan 3, Tinian 0

Tinian showed up to play in the final match, but stumbled in the third inning, as Saipan broke the ice with two runs in the bottom frame.

Craig Aguon reached off an error and Rokie Tenorio drove him in off a double. Tenorio then capitalized on a bad throw and made it all the way to the plate.

Later in the fifth, Jadrien Camacho brought home Tenorio with a double; Tenorio reached off a two-out triple.

To its credit, Tinian played solid defense and pitcher John Cruz gave up just four hits with a walk and a bean ball, but the crew struggled at the plate against Saipan Hurler Franco Nakamura, who had a no-hitter in seven innings, gave up only four walks, and had 14 strikeouts.

Rokie Tenorio batted 2-for-3 with two triples, one RBI, and two runs.

JUNIOR DIVISION Saipan 15, Rota 0

After starting the game at the plate 1-2-3, Saipan jumped in front, 8-0, in the second inning off a couple wild pitches, an RBI single by Khobby Kaipat, an RBI walk with the bases loaded, a two-RBI single by Jeremy Lizama, and a pair of errors.

Then Saipan added a run in the third off a double by Cedric Ada and mustered two more runs in the fourth frame off a double by Jose Lizama and an RBI base rip by Ray Ray Saralu.

Rota was stuffed to just one base runner off a fielder's choice in its first four chances.

Saipan went on to pour four

more runs in the fifth off a triple by KJ Kalen, an RBI base knock by Ada, an RBI walk, and an error before securing the early decision.

Winning pitcher Frankie Lieto came to the mound in relief for Jeremy Lizama in the third inning. He kept the shut out intact and gave up one hit and a walk with six strikeouts.

Ada batted 2-for-3 with three RBIs, two runs, and a base on balls, while Jose Lizama swang 2-for-2 with an RBI, two runs, and a base on balls.

SENIOR DIVISION Saipan 14, Rota 2

Saipan built an early 5-0 lead in the opening frame. Two leadoff walks set up a three-run homer by Brian Camacho and the next two runs came off errors and a double by Greg Iskawa.

Rota got a run back in the second from Felix Ogo who led off the second with a triple; Saipan left the bases loaded in the bottom frame.

Then Saipan pulled ahead, 9-1, in the third inning. Iskawa started it off with a solo homer, Poland Masaharu Jr. reached of an error and was singled home by Frankie Camacho. and Lamar Iguel cleared the bases with a two-run homer.

Tinian managed a run off a balk in the fourth, but Saipan answered with five runs in the fifth off an RBI poke by A.J. Lizama, a passed ball, two errors, and a wild pitch.

Saipan's Joseph Atalig then came to the mound and closed the game after three batters.

Winning pitcher Leroy Regis gave up two earned runs in four innings off five hits and seven strikeouts.

Iskawa batted 3-for-3 with a home run, an RBI, a stolen base, and a base on balls.

In their 18-4 win over Rota last Saturday, Brian Camacho and Ricardo Dela Cruz led the attack with a grand slam and three-run homer, respectively.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES	
MLB STANDINGS	
AMERICAN LEAGUE	
East Division	
	W L Pct GB
Boston	29 22 .569 —
New York	27 22 .551 1
Tampa Bay	27 23 .540 1 1/2
Toronto	25 26 .490 4
Baltimore	24 25 .490 4
Central Division	
Cleveland	30 18 .625 —
Detroit	25 25 .500 6
Kansas City	23 27 .460 8
Chicago	24 29 .453 8 1/2
Minnesota	16 33 .327 14 1/2
West Division	
Texas	26 25 .510 —
Los Angeles	27 26 .509 1/2
Seattle	25 25 .500 1.2
Oakland	25 27 .481 1 1/2
NATIONAL LEAGUE	
East Division	
Philadelphia	33 19 .635 —
Florida	30 20 .600 2
Atlanta	29 24 .547 4 1/2
New York	23 28 .451 9 1/2
Washington	22 29 .431 10 1/2
Central Division	
St. Louis	31 22 .585 —
Milwaukee	28 24 .538 2 1/2
Cincinnati	27 26 .509 4
Pittsburgh	24 26 .480 5 1/2
Chicago	22 28 .440 7 1/2
Houston	19 33 .365 11 1/2
West Division	
San Francisco	28 23 .549 —
Arizona	28 24 .538 1/2
Colorado	25 26 .490 3
Los Angeles	23 30 .434 6
San Diego	21 31 .404 7 1/2
Yesterday's Games	
Pittsburgh 10, Chicago Cubs 0	
San Diego 2, Washington 1	
Milwaukee 3, San Francisco 2	
Arizona 11, Houston 3	
Atlanta 7, Cincinnati 6, 12 innings	
Philadelphia 5, N.Y. Mets 2	
Colorado 15, St. Louis 4	
Florida 6, L.A. Dodgers 1	
Cleveland 7, Tampa Bay 3	
Toronto 9, Chicago Sox 8	
Texas 10, Kansas City 1	
Minnesota 1, Los Angeles Angels 0	
Oakland 4, Baltimore 2	
Seattle 5, N.Y. Yankees 4	
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS	

Weekend Sports

Off-island athletes take spotlight

By **ROSELYN B. MONROYO**
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REPORTER

Athletics' Yvonne Bennett, tennis' Ji Hoon Heo, and basketball's Jericho Cruz graced last week's headlines after posting impressive performances in their respective sports.

Bennett set a new CNMI record in the 400m race (57.14 seconds) after running for NCAA Division I's Boise State University in the 2011 Western Athletic Conference Outdoor Track and Field Championships. She broke her mark of 61.30 seconds made during the 2010 Micronesian Games in Palau.

Heo suited up for Hawaii

Pacific University in the NCAA II Championship and won all his two matches in tournament. After the Florida event, Heo announced he will be going to Europe for a series of money tournaments.

Cruz is in the Philippines and playing for the Adamson University in the 2011 Filoil Flying V Hanes Preseason Premier

League. Cruz's team is one of the 17 squads joining the competition and Adamson last week placed second in the standings with its 6-1 mark.

Back in the local scene, football teams were formally crowned champions in the NMIFA spring league last week.

MP United ruled both the boys U18 and U15 divisions with their

unbeaten record, while Matansa topped the girls U15.

Also getting its crown was Team Morales, who defeated Team C-GOM in the finals of the 2011 Saipan Marianas Lions Club-Civic Center Inter-Color Friendship Basketball League at the Civic Center Court in Susupe.

Still in basketball, the QQ Cup and Miller Lite leagues

continued with their regular season games. Winning last week were the Sonics, Blue Hauz, Armatech, and Hotshots.

In softball, the Belau league had its playoff round last week with the Tigers and TKK 2 surviving their foes to advance in the finals.

Also making it to the next round of a separate event were

the Tan Holdings Brewers, who ousted the Masters in the Saipan Major League.

In tennis, the DFS tournament completed Week 1 of the competition with sisters Thea and Thecel Minor, Daniel Park, and Rafael Jones making it to the finals of the U18 singles.

In swimming, Ryuto Yanai and Lukas Kang crushed two CNMI age group marks each during a short meet at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool.

The week ends with Saipan and Tinian Little League teams making it to Rota for the CNMI District Tournament.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Ji Hoon Heo serves during one of the home games of Hawaii Pacific University in the NCAA Division II competition last month.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Daniel Park returns to Christian Miller during their U18 singles semis match in the DFS tournament at the Pacific Islands Club hard courts.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Lukas Kang, seen here in a local tournament, made two age group records in a short meet at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Jericho Cruz, right, of the Adamson Falcons looks for a teammate to pass to during a game in the 2011 Filoil Flying V Hanes Preseason Premier League in the Philippines.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Ryuto Yanai, seen here in a local tournament, crushed two age group records in a short meet at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Yvonne Bennett, seen here with a medal she won during an indoor tournament in February this year, shattered the CNMI record in the 400m run.



WALTER CEPEDA-SUTHERLAND

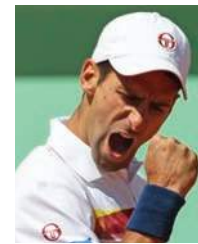
Saipan Major League's Tony Rogolifo, second from left, and Tan Siu Lin-Rep. Fred DLGuerrero-Rep. Ramon S. Basa Kagman Lions manager Syl Ada, second from right, instruct some Junior League All-Star pitchers in last Monday's practice at a bullpen next to the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield.



**Messi's Barcelona
beats Man United
in finals**

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**Djokovic, Nadal,
Sharapova win
easily in Paris**

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28 MONDAY, MAY 30, 2011

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Saipan All-Stars near District sweep

By WALTER CEPEDA-SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

ROTA—Saipan sluggers won three of the four divisions in the 2011 CNMI District Tournament after the games over the weekend here.

The Saipan Major All-Stars defeated Rota, 10-0, and then topped Tinian, 12-2, in their back-to-back games on Saturday at the Joaquin M. Ogo Baseball Field before sealing the championship with a 3-0 win in a close duel against Tinian yesterday.

In the Junior League division, the Saipan All-Stars trashed Rota in the best-of-three series, winning Game 1 on Saturday at the Liyo Baseball Field with a big margin, 17-1, and shutting out the hosts in Game 2 yesterday, 15-0.

The Saipan Senior All-Stars also dominated Rota in a similar best-of-three duel, taking

Games 1, 18-4, and 2, 14-2.

In the Big League, Saipan downed Rota on Saturday, 15-4, and then blanked Tinian, 10-0 yesterday morning.

Eric Tenorio smashed a walk off home run in the first at bat against Tinian Sunday morning. Saipan was ahead, 9-0, after five innings on Saturday when the game was called off due to lack of light. The next morning, Saipan held Rota scoreless in the top of the sixth and first batter Tenorio sent the first pitch out of the park for the swift victory.

Also yesterday, Rota went on

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The Saipan Junior All-Stars, bottom photo, and Major All-Stars, top photo, flash the No. 1 sign after winning in the CNMI District Tournament held over the weekend on Rota.

WALTER CEPEDA-SUTHERLAND

TKK 2 wins Belau softball crown



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

TKK 2's Julian Camacho swings during the top of the sixth inning of Game 2 of their title series against the Tigers in the Belau softball league yesterday at the Dandan Elementary School Ballfield.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



TKK 2 completed its dominance in the 2011 Belau Amateur Softball Association Slow-Pitch

League after sweeping the Tigers in the finals yesterday at the Dandan Elementary School Ballfield.

TKK 2 nailed a close 12-10 win in Game 1 and then walked away with a 20-3 victory in Game 2 to wrap up the

See TKK 2 on Page 26

Dolphins slip past Rays in MISO outrigger canoe

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



Marianas High School paddlers saved the

best for last to grab the boys championships in the 2010-2011 Marianas Interscholastic Sports Organization outrigger canoe race last Saturday at the Kilili Beach.

The Dolphins, which were ranked second with their 47

points, going into the final week of the month-long races, collected 56 points in Week 4 to bring their total to 103. The MHS paddlers ousted Saipan Southern High School in first place, as the Manta Rays only gained 30 points in the

final week and ended up with a second-best total of 86 points. The final week of the competition offered double points.

In last Saturday's event, MHS earned 10 points for placing first

See DOLPHINS on Page 26



Marianas High School paddlers near the finish line of the 1,500m preliminary race during the final week of the MISO outrigger canoe competition last Saturday at the Kilili Beach.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO